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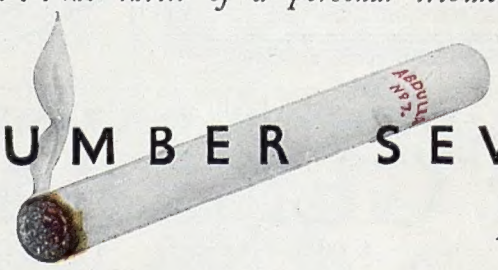

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Volume CXCVII No. 2569 The SPHERE, London, April 30, 1949

THE SPHERE
With which is incorporated "THE GRAPHIC"
The Empire's Illustrated Weekly

THE QUEEN AS HOSTESS TO THE COMMONWEALTH LEADERS—HER MAJESTY WITH PANDIT NEHRU, INDIAN PREMIER AND KEY FIGURE AT THE CONFERENCE, AND THE BEGUM LIAQUAT ALI KHAN, WIFE OF THE PREMIER OF PAKISTAN: The King and Queen entertained all the Commonwealth representatives to luncheon. The event coincided with the twenty-third birthday of Princess Elizabeth

Before the Commonwealth Prime Ministers held their first full session at 10, Downing Street, last week, Mr. Attlee held a series of informal discussions to prepare the ground for their talks, while there was a notable gathering at Buckingham Palace at which the King and Queen, Princess Elizabeth (whose twenty-third birthday it was), the Duke of Edinburgh and other members of the Royal Family were present. Seven Prime Ministers were at the Palace—three of them accompanied by their wives—constituting a gathering of Commonwealth leaders that will long be remembered. Before going to luncheon at the Palace the Prime Ministers assembled at No. 10, Downing Street, for a sherry party given by Mrs. Attlee. The key figure at the Conference was undoubtedly that of Pandit Nehru, the Indian Prime Minister, in earlier days the chief lieutenant of Gandhi and one who has throughout a turbulent career devoted himself to India's political advancement. The son of a prominent Indian lawyer, he was educated at Harrow and Trinity College, Cambridge, and was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple. Pandit Nehru came to the Conference declaring that it was India's wish to become a Republic within the Commonwealth, and it was this point on which attention was focussed in the first days of discussion. (Further Conference pictures will be found on pages 147—49 of this issue)

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A LONDON NEWSLETTER

1, NEW OXFORD STREET, W.C.1.

The Yangtse "Incident."

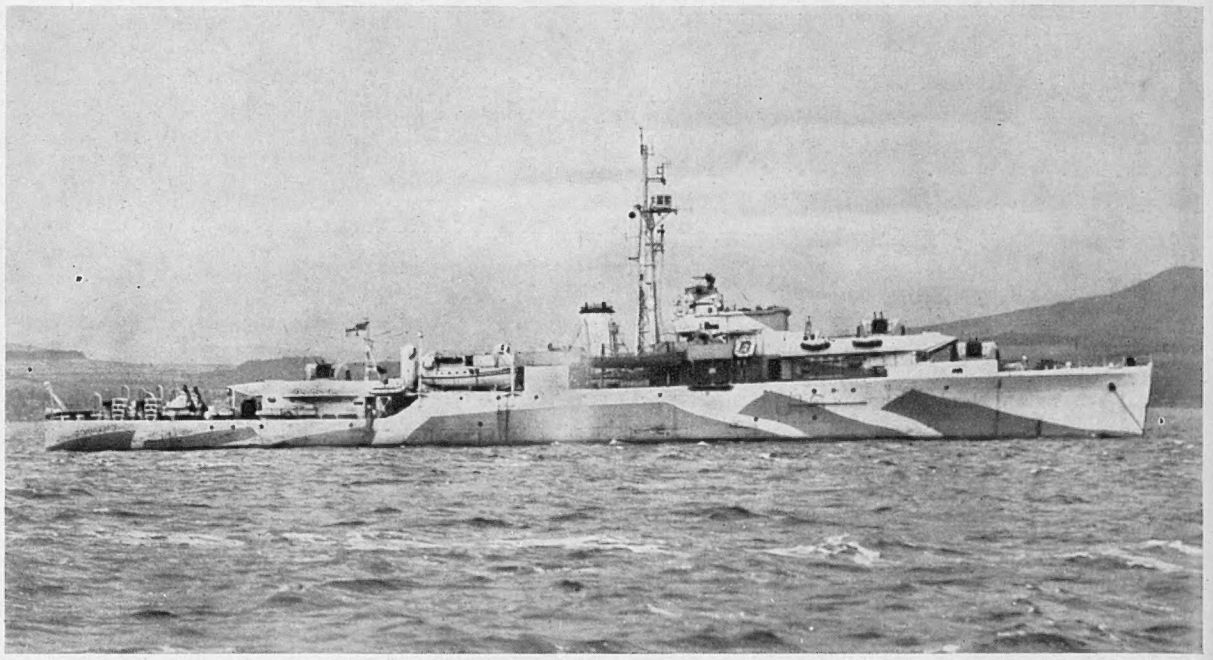
—An act of wanton aggression which cost the lives of many British sailors and very heavy damage to her warships is not very completely described as an incident. An accident it certainly was not. It was deliberate and unprovoked brigandage and aggression. The *Panay* affair of 1937, when the Japs shelled an American warship, is cited as a parallel. In those days there still survived some sort of reign of international law, and the protests of Great Powers were backed by something more than a threat of recourse to an international body which has neither the will nor the power to enforce a judgment. On that point, one can cite the Corfu Channel incident. The chief headache to-day of Foreign Ministers of civilised Powers is that they usually have to deal with barbarians who know no law and fear nothing but overwhelming force which none dare apply, and it has long struck me that to deal with such "governments" with the ancient weapons of conventional diplomacy and civilised international usage is a waste of time and an invitation to new humiliations and loss of life and property. There never was any international law worth the name which did not carry the certainty of condign sanction on the guilty party. There is none to-day. The ultimate end of an "incident" such as this is . . . a snub or World War III. Accordingly, if the methods of civilised diplomacy seem rather like threatening an armoured tank with a bow and arrow, the more modern and appropriate technique is difficult to devise. But that is no reason why our Government and naval authorities should behave as if the golden days of international law still flourished in the new barbarian territories.

Eire: The King's Message.

—The Republic of Eire, on the day of cutting the last link with the Commonwealth, received a generous message of good will from the King, the last link in question. And a Canadian newspaper commented on the "sportsmanship" of the gesture, contrasting the "English way" with the fetters and thumb-screws applied to reluctant Soviet satellites. And indeed the contrast was significant and very sweet—in Western eyes. I would not claim to know anything material concerning the character of the Irish in any part of the Island. Even their own writers have found it unpredictable. I should have supposed it safe to say that the decision of Eire to become an independent Republic has not brought union with Northern Ireland nearer. That is not the view of Eire statesmen, nor possibly of other Commonwealth statesmen. But if that union is indefinitely postponed, there is no doubt colour for the contemporary view that Eire's decision leaves a dangerously weak spot in Commonwealth defences. The decisions come to by the Commonwealth Premiers may in some sort affect the position, and the national character of the people of Southern Ireland may well reduce potential dangers still further. The new Republic has been launched with good will from all quarters and in a spirit of cordiality rare in the relations between England and Eire.

Mr. Bevin Adds His Prophecy.

—When a great international Pact is concluded, every Foreign Minister or Premier concerned is expected to make a public comment for his nation's satisfaction. Nor would you expect him to say "We have just concluded a pact for peace, and believe me, it is not worth the paper it is written on." Yet I am sure Mr. Bevin chose his words with care and had at least the recent past history of peace pacts in mind when he faced the reporters. He must have remembered Locarno, 1925, and Sir Austen's Garter and the King's "Peace for many years, why not for ever?" And Mr. Neville Chamberlain's words of triumph from Downing Street on his return from seeing Hitler, just a few months before World War II. Mr. Bevin's choice of words was: "I am still convinced that the Pact is the greatest step that has been taken to maintain post-war peace." There is significance in that "still," and in "to maintain post-war peace," as we know it, suggests no miracle achieved by diplomacy, as did Locarno and Munich. And the lessons of Versailles, Locarno and Munich have surely, have indeed, been enshrined in the foundations of the N.A.P., and influence Mr. Bevin's choice of words.



H.M.S. "AMETHYST," THE TARGET OF COMMUNIST ARTILLERY—THE 1,350-TON BRITISH SLOOP WHICH WENT AGROUND UNDER FIRE IN THE YANGTSE LAST WEEK WHEN PASSING THROUGH THE AREA OF THE RIVER-CROSSING OPERATIONS OF THE COMMUNIST ARMIES: The "Amethyst," flying the White Ensign and with big canvas Union Jacks hanging over her sides, was moving up-river from Shanghai on a routine journey with stores for the British community besieged at Nanking, the Chinese Nationalist capital. On the south bank of the Yangtse the Nationalist Armies were awaiting the Communist attack across the river. Suddenly *Amethyst* came under heavy fire from the Communist field artillery. Her Ensign was shot away and she immediately hoisted another. Her steering was apparently damaged, and the warship went aground on Rose Island. The ship's doctor was among the nineteen killed. Meanwhile the destroyer *Consort*, which had been waiting at Nanking to be relieved by *Amethyst*, moved downstream to the rescue, and she too came under heavy fire from Communist field artillery. Her 4·5-in. guns blazed back as she ran the gauntlet down to Rose Island. But the destroyer could not get close to *Amethyst*, and ran into a hail of fire as she passed by. Nine were killed and three seriously wounded in the *Consort*. There were also heavy casualties in the cruiser *London*. On Monday last the *Amethyst* was still stranded in the Yangtse, the Communists having refused her safe passage, and Parliament awaited a statement from Mr. Attlee

The Commission on Gambling.

—Certainly I pray for a right judgment on Mr. Willink's Commission on Betting and Gambling and the early implementation of their recommendations if right judgment directs them. But it will be a long business. I fancy their terms of reference are wide; I hope wide enough to handle the whole question of whether or no gambling is a national vice, to be discouraged, or an amiable little human weakness ineradicable and therefore worth the Treasury's while to cash in on. I hope they will blow away centuries of hypocrisy and if they find gambling ineradicable, they will at last enable the State to benefit financially in a really big way from the "amiable weakness." I scan the list of the members, all sorts and conditions of men and women—railway directors, cricketers, footballers, teachers, courtiers, T.U.C. officials, Scots Law experts, Olympic Games experts—and I speculate about their special contributions. Countless millions of money, better put into savings, go down the drain every year or into the capacious, unplumbed pockets of the fat men of the great fraternity, who appear to get no thinner. Perhaps a majority of the nation are practising gamblers in a fanatical or casual way. A minority is not, and that minority pays an unnecessarily high price for its brethren's little recreation, thanks to decades of official hypocrisy or fear of unpopularity.

Death Duties.

—A simplification of the law and forms regarding income tax and death and succession duties has been long overdue. The present system has been the scandal of a civilised nation, as sure a sign of decadence as in old Rome. The highest taxed nation in the world has for decades been taxed by methods too complicated and elaborate for ordinary comprehension and for reasonably punctual satisfaction. It is quite common for the estate of a deceased person to be still waiting to be wound up after four years, while the beneficiaries live on doles and capital, not knowing what may come to them at last, and the lawyers' and accountants' fees pile up, while hastily-realised investments to meet the claims earn no income year after year. The Chancellor therefore (at last) has proposed a simplification, and it was hailed with relief. But on a closer inspection it reveals the usual lack of thought and lack of justice, and a discrepancy between official preaching and practice. The family is the unit that matters—therefore pauperise it and liquidate it! Under the new proposals, widow and children beneficiaries of a deceased's estate will pay *more than ever before*, but the "poplolly" and the unrelated beneficiary will be eased considerably of the burden of inheritance! Did you ever?

Juvenile Delinquency.

—The joint appeal by Home Office and Ministry of Education sent out to Chairmen C.C. and Mayors for energetic action to check juvenile delinquency comes not too soon. The suggestion offered was the formation of representative local bodies to study the subject and to institute preventive measures. I wonder what the authorities have in mind for each C.C. area or borough. One such body or more? And of what size and range of representation? I can imagine that a chairman of Quarter Sessions might be a good chairman, and there must be representatives of the local Education Authority, of school teachers and probation officers, of youth organisations, especially in the realm of games, of village mothers of young children, of the police and of juvenile panels of Petty Sessions. A human and active country parson or two are essential, the medical profession must not be forgotten. A small committee usually works better than a large one, especially when it comes to instituting preventive measures which are the crux, and everything points to the early appointment of an executive sub-committee in each area, chosen by the representative main body. Three or four energetic and courageous and far-sighted men and women, invested with plenary power to draft proposals after hearing all the evidence and ideas contributed, could do an immense amount towards a cleaning-up—or checking. In the long run, the job must be done by the parent, the parson and the new education by inculcating once more in the youth of Britain a sense of discipline and responsibility, a love of fair play, a reverence for law and order; the Christian ethic (in a word or two).

Nuffield College.

—While Lord Halifax was laying the stone of Lord Nuffield's new college, two public men were elsewhere giving very divergent views on education. It was the old theme of the value in the modern world of a classical education. Sir Miles Thomas, once managing director of Morris Motors, was uncompromisingly against, Lord Soulbury as firmly for, a classical background. The great Mæcenas, Lord Nuffield, never says much and did not commit himself at Oxford. The object of his college is to encourage research, especially in the field of social studies, and to render easier co-operation between academic and non-academic persons; Lord Soulbury and Sir Miles, for example. Oxford has definite views on the education appropriate even for the workaday world's workers, and we are entitled to believe that the Public Orator's assurance that the aims of the college would be met in accordance with University traditions, implied a compromise. The Nuffield graduate of the future would go out into the workaday world with at least an academic flavour about him. He may not be able to translate an "election address into fluent and correct Latin," but he will be something broader than a mere "master of the differential calculus," or even of mental arithmetic.

"Filia Pulchrior."

—All the world loves a lovely Princess. The dingier the world, the more blatantly "democratic," the more passionately and blatantly the millions offer their worship and admiration. Only the star film actress of the day can compete. A century or so ago mere beauty could do it (*e.g.*, the Gunnings). Now it must be beauty crowned with a royal diadem or Hollywood's wilting bays. Princess Josephine of Belgium is exactly qualified to fill the bill which modern fans demand. I can imagine no more perfect avant-courier for the restoration of King Leopold.

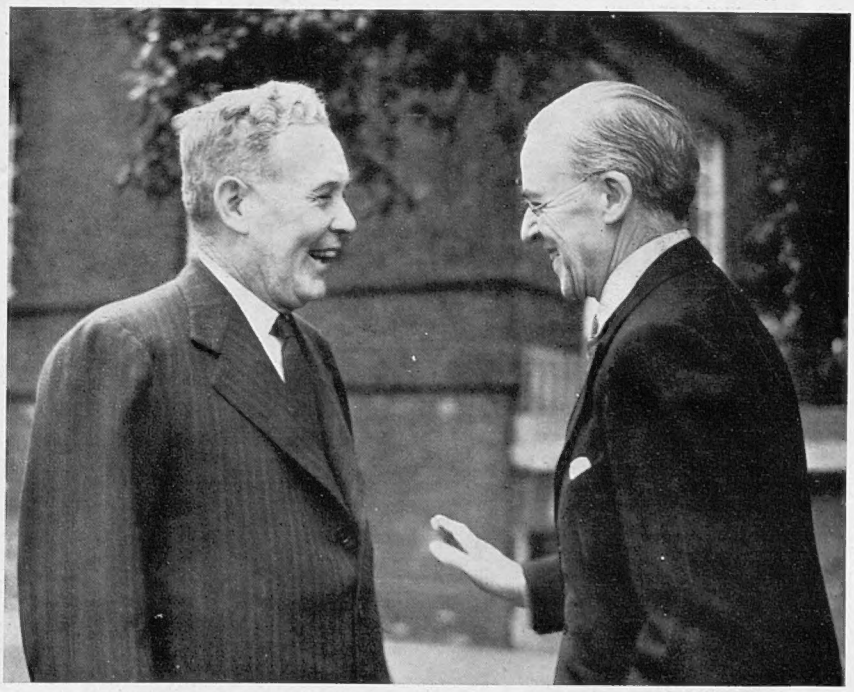
THE OLD STAGER

THE PREMIERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH GATHER IN THE GARDENS OF NO. 10 AFTER THE SHERRY PARTY GIVEN BY MRS. ATTLEE AND BEFORE LEAVING FOR THE BUCKINGHAM PALACE LUNCHEON : Left to right, front row—Mrs. Attlee, Pandit Nehru (India), Lady Cripps, Mrs. Malan, Mr. Attlee, the Begum Liaquat Ali Khan, and Mr. Chifley (Australia). Left to Right, second row—Sir Stafford Cripps, Mr. Pearson (Canada's Foreign Minister), Liaquat Ali Khan (Pakistan), Mr. Peter Fraser (New Zealand), Dr. Malan (South Africa), Mr. Senanayake (Ceylon), and Mr. Noel Baker (Commonwealth Relations). Sir Stafford Cripps was present in his capacity as an expert on Indian affairs. It will be remembered what a prominent part he played in the negotiations for a solution of India's Constitutional deadlock which preceded the establishment of the two new Dominions. At the Conference he has renewed associations both with Mr. Nehru and Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan

SEVEN PREMIERS at DOWNING STREET

The Start of the Commonwealth Conference

PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU : The Prime Minister of India and the central figure of the Commonwealth Conference. In the years before the war he was several times imprisoned for his activities, but in many ways he has been a true disciple of Gandhi, and friends and opponents alike praise him for his magnanimity and his courage



MR. CHIFLEY ENJOYS A JOKE WITH SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS : Australia's Prime Minister and Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer in the gardens of No. 10, Downing Street. Mr. Chifley, sixteenth Prime Minister of Australia, was born in New South Wales in 1885. He is the son of a blacksmith and was at one time an engine-driver on the New South Wales Railways

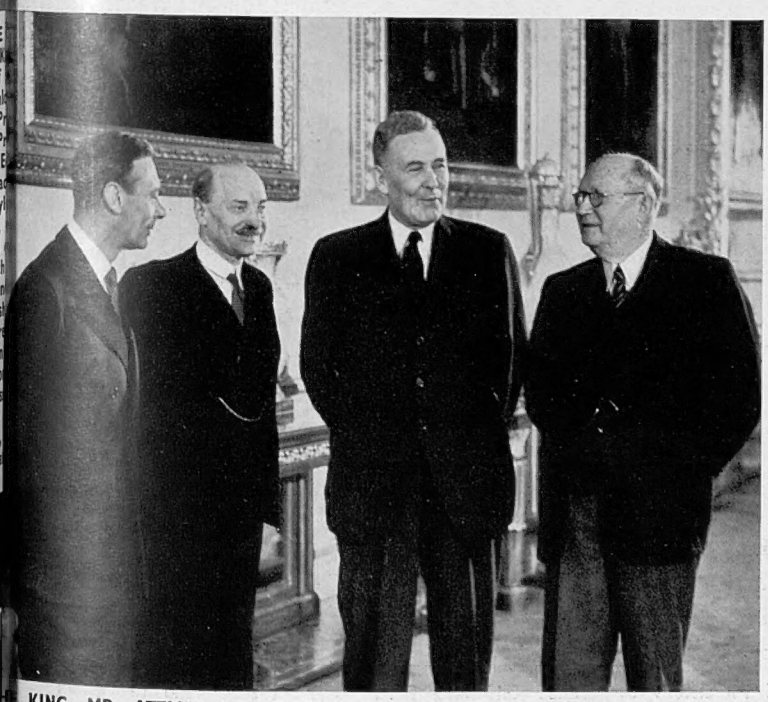
THE KING AND QUEEN WITH THE LEADERS OF THE GREAT FAMILY OF NATIONS—LAST WEEK'S NOTABLE GATHERING AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE ON THE OCCASION OF THE COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE, WHEN NO FEWER THAN SEVEN PRIME MINISTERS WERE IN LONDON: Left to right—Liaquat Ali Khan (Prime Minister of Pakistan), the Countess of Athlone, Mrs. Malan, Mrs. Attlee, Queen Mary, the Duchess of Gloucester, Dr. Malan (Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa), the Duchess of Kent, the Earl of Athlone, Princess Elizabeth, Princess Margaret, Mr. Peter Fraser (Prime Minister of New Zealand), His Majesty the King, Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister of Australia), Her Majesty the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, Pandit Nehru (Prime Minister of India), the Begum Liaquat Ali Khan, Mr. Attlee, and Mr. Senanayake (Prime Minister of Ceylon). Mr. Lester Pearson (Canada's Secretary for External Affairs), who came as the representative of the Canadian Prime Minister, is not just shown on the extreme right. The occasion coincided with the twenty-third birthday of Princess Elizabeth who, after spending the morning with Prince Charles at her home at Windlesham, drove up to London with the Duke of Edinburgh in order to be present at the luncheon to the Commonwealth Prime Ministers. On the day after the luncheon the Conference held its first session in Downing Street, and it was generally expected that the discussions would last six days. Their agenda ranged over the whole field of Imperial policy, but in the forefront was, of course, the question of India's position arising from her Republican aspirations.

QUEEN MARY DRIVES TO THE PALACE: Her Majesty on the way to the gathering of Prime Ministers which coincided with her granddaughter's twenty-third birthday

MRS. ATTLEE DRIVES TO THE PALACE: The Prime Minister's wife, who wore a patch over her eye, on the way to the luncheon. She held a sherry party for the visitors

THE ROYAL FAMILY MEET THE COMMONWEALTH PREMIERS

Last Week's Memorable Gathering at Buckingham Palace

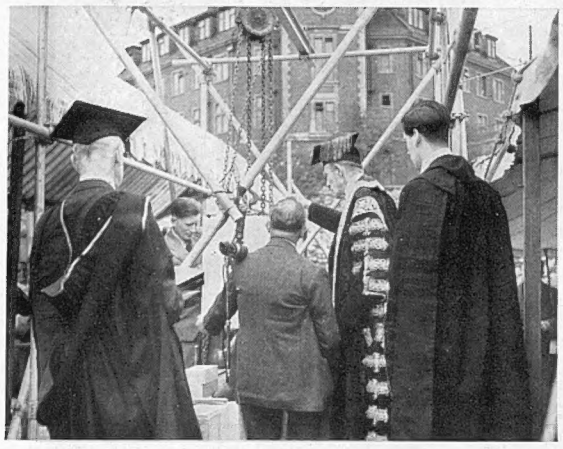


KING, MR. ATTLEE, MR. CHIFLEY AND DR. MALAN : His Majesty with the Prime Ministers of Britain, Australia and South Africa. Dr. Malan, the oldest Prime Minister taking part in the Conference, succeeded General Smuts as Prime Minister of South Africa after the Election last year. In his younger days he was a preacher and took a Doctorate in Divinity

AN OFFICIAL GROUP IN THE STATE DINING-ROOM : This picture was taken at Buckingham Palace after the King had entertained the Prime Ministers. Left to right—Mr. Senanayake (Ceylon), Mr. L. Pearson (representing Canada), Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan (Pakistan), the King, Mr. Attlee, Mr. Chifley (Australia), Dr. Malan (South Africa), Mr. Fraser (New Zealand) and Mr. Nehru (India)

OXFORD'S NEWEST COLLEGE

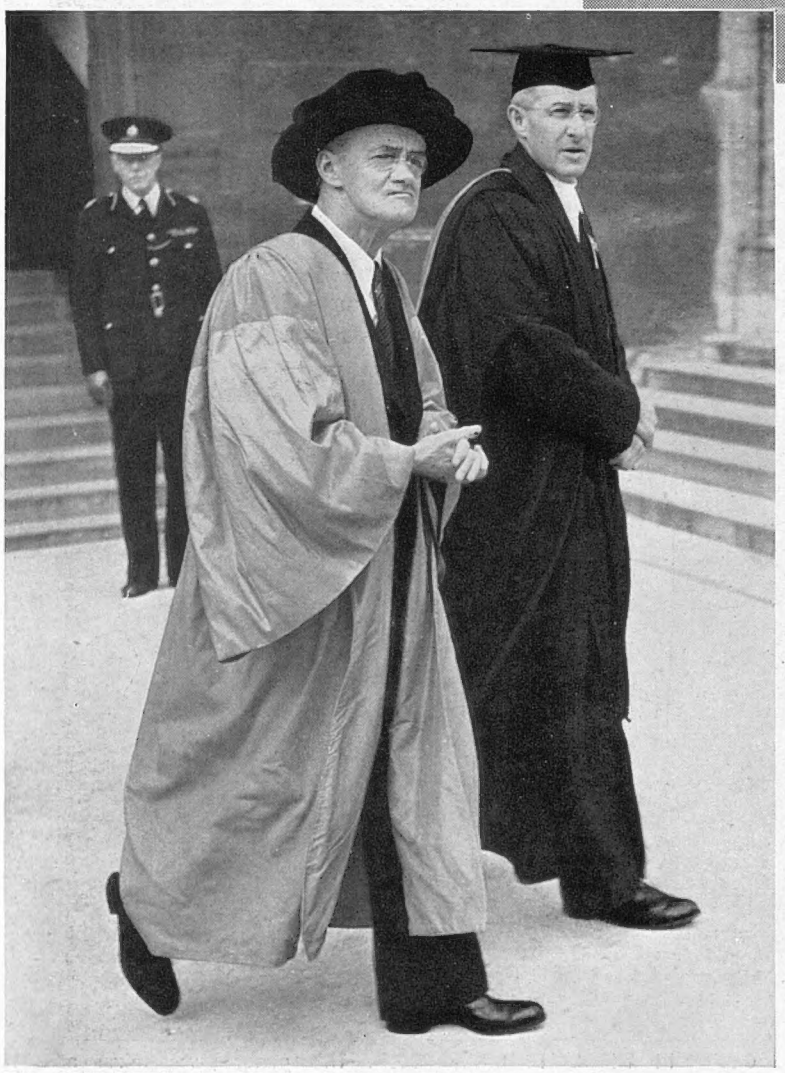
Laying the Foundation-stone of Nuffield College



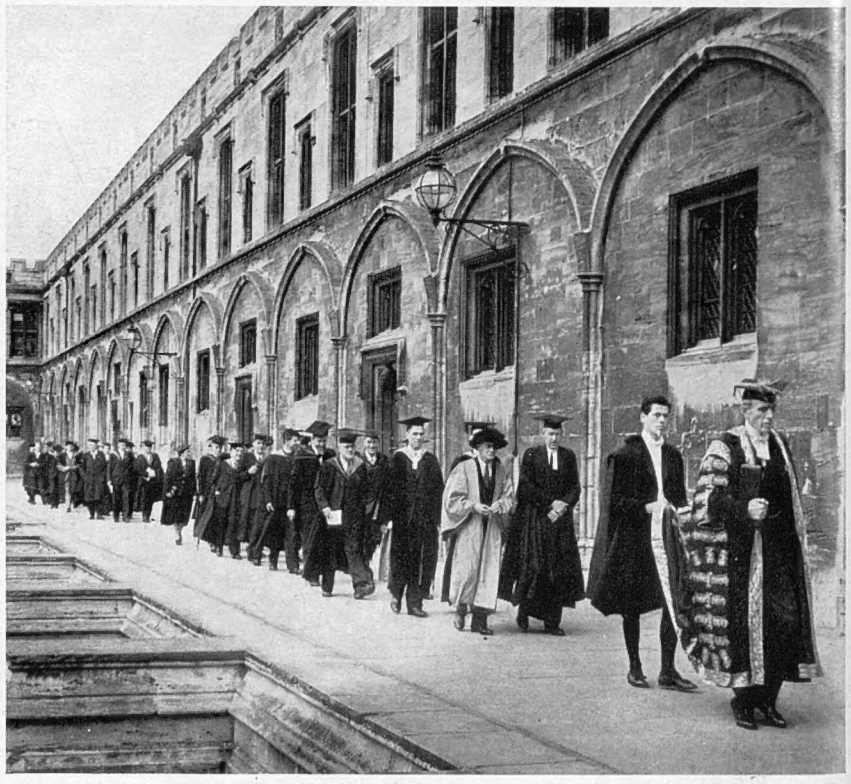
THE EARL OF HALIFAX LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF NUFFIELD COLLEGE: The Chancellor of Oxford University scorned the use of a special silver trowel, but with a firm hand used an ordinary mason's trowel to apply the mortar with a professional touch. The new college, lies on a site which for two centuries was used as a coal depot. It will vastly improve the western approach to Oxford

Nuffield College, which is to specialise in social science research, its principal aim being to bridge the gap between academic pursuits and practical affairs, long ago began its work in temporary buildings. Last week's ceremony marked the beginning of the full constructional plan envisaged by Lord Nuffield in 1937, when he offered the University a site to the north of the Castle Mound and £900,000 for the building and endowment of the college. One of Lord Nuffield's incidental aims in founding the college was to save for worthy use the only site still available within the limits of the old city of Oxford. Nuffield College will fill the gap between the older Colleges of Worcester and Pembroke. Lord Nuffield mentioned in his brief speech at the luncheon at Christ Church after the foundation-stone laying that the western approach to the city would be improved by the new college. He remembered in his youth, he said, that that approach had been appalling

AFTER THE LAYING OF THE FOUNDATION-STONE—THE CHANCELLOR'S PROCESSION ON ITS WAY TO CHRIST CHURCH, WHERE AN OFFICIAL LUNCHEON WAS HELD: The Earl of Halifax, Chancellor of the University, is seen carrying the case in which was the silver trowel he did not use for laying the foundation of Nuffield College. Lord Nuffield, is seen walking behind Lord Halifax in company with the Vice-Chancellor, and following on are the Public Orator, and the Warden, Fellows and Chaplain of Nuffield College



THE FIRST CITIZEN OF OXFORD TO FOUND AN OXFORD COLLEGE: Lord Nuffield, whose munificence has paved the way for Nuffield College at Oxford's western approach, arriving at Christ Church with the Very Reverend Dr. Lowe, Dean of Christ Church and Vice-Chancellor of the University



WITHIN THE PRECINCTS OF CHRIST CHURCH: Lord Halifax leading the procession after the foundation-stone laying. "The new college," declared Lord Halifax at the luncheon, "is to meet new needs in accord with the traditions of Oxford. Already it has forged links," he said, "between the University and the world outside. There is, indeed, no incompatibility between recognition of the practical exigencies of everyday life and the search for underlying principles"

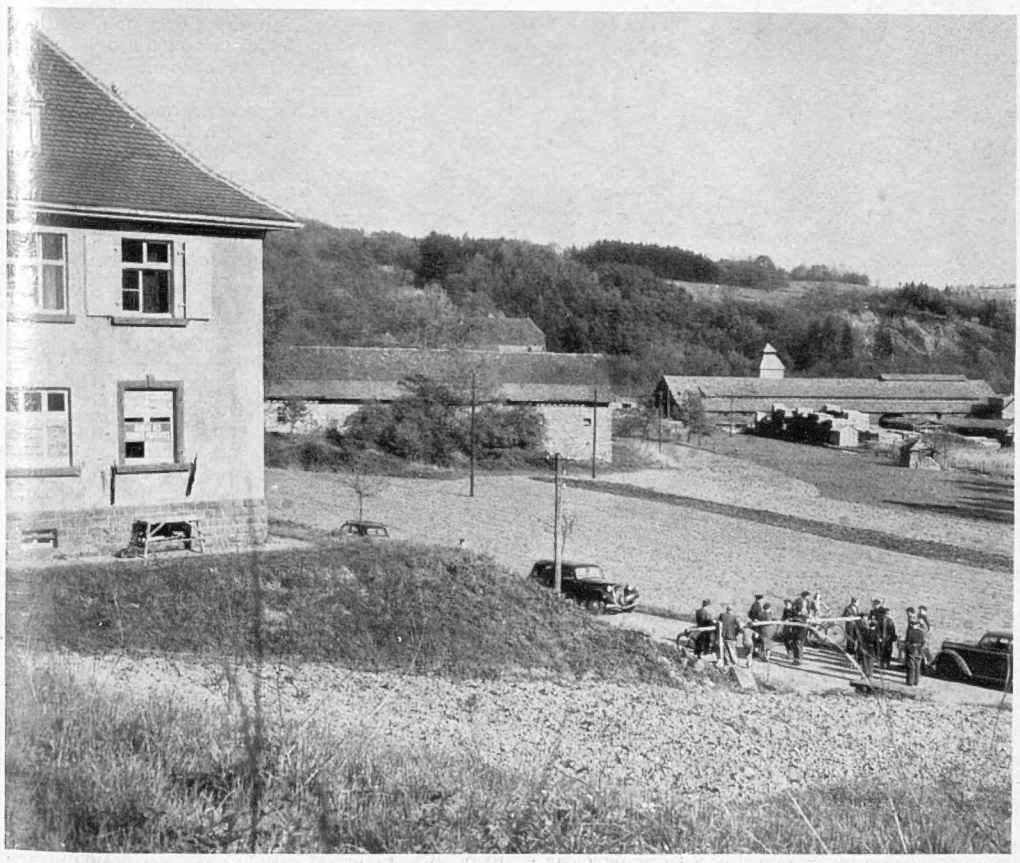
THE GERMANS STAGE A "THANK YOU" MEETING IN THE FRONTIER TOWN OF MONSCHAU WHICH, AFTER BEING AWARDED TO BELGIUM BY INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT, IS TO REMAIN GERMAN BY BELGIAN CONSENT: Addressing the meeting is Herr Karl Arnold (on right; behind microphone), Premier of North Rhine-Westphalia and leader of the movement against revision. He declared that Belgium's renunciation was a step forward in overcoming the distrust between the two countries, and he invited Holland to follow suit and give up the territory awarded to her. The Belgians have set aside all the more important of their minor claims, and so far they have taken over from Germany only eight square miles of land and 5,000 Germans

EUROPEAN FRONTIER ADJUSTMENTS

Belgium Makes a Gesture of Friendship Towards Her German Neighbour

KARL ARNOLD SMILES ACROSS THE FRONTIER: The Premier of North Rhine-Westphalia with frontier officials at Bildchen, one of the few villages which Belgium has taken over from Germany under the terms of the International award. In the recent frontier rectifications Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg have taken over a total of 651 square miles

The latest changes in the German frontier and the cessions to Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg and France are not of world-shaking importance, and all of them are dictated by sound common sense, helping to make the ways straight and cut out borderland anomalies. Belgium has helped to assuage German grief by renouncing, temporarily at any rate, most of the claims, with the result that she gains only eight square miles along the frontier. The intention of the four countries is to administer their new lands as undemonstratively as possible. Registration of the German inhabitants has already begun, and passes are being issued to those working in Germany. In the new Dutch area German teachers will remain at the schools. Herr Karl Arnold, Prime Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia, has been outspoken in his praise of Belgium for her very generous renunciation.



SETTING UP A NEW FRONTIER POST IN THE BUCKBACK VALLEY, WHERE THE FRENCH BORDER HAS BEEN MOVED ABOUT ONE MILE EASTWARD INTO GERMANY: By joint agreement between French and German officials, 1,580 acres of German forest land has been annexed, and a small group of German nationals occupying farms in the area now find themselves under French suzerainty. Frontier posts were ripped out along the Lauter River and the new boundary was then staked out with temporary posts and signs. An official proclamation of the changes was heralded by bell-ringing and was then read out to the villagers and other residents of the affected area

FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1813 NEW TERRITORY IS ADDED TO THE NETHERLANDS: British and Dutch officials look on as a pole is driven into the ground to mark the new German-Dutch frontier at Elten, near Nijmegen. Elten, lying to the north-west of Emmerich, formerly constituted a pocket within the German Reich, and this straightening out of the frontier is essentially a practical measure. There are 3,500 Germans in the Elten area

AN ENGLISH FRONTIER CONTROL OFFICER PLACES A CLAIMING FLAG IN POSITION NEAR DINXPERLE: This is one of the nineteen rectifications made in the Dutch-German frontier from Emden to Aachen. Only eight of the areas are inhabited. Of these the most important are the Elten and Gangelt pockets

ST. HELENA, THE OCEAN ORPHAN

News from "That Temperate Isle In a Tropic Sea"

By FERDINAND TUOHY

WHICH is the island whose name would leap to the tongue in any universal island quiz, yet is rarely heard of from year's end to year's end?

Yes—someone has it. . . . St. Helena.

Thanks to recurrent newspaper publicity, people are far more conversant with one of St. Helena's four dependencies—Tristan da Cunha—than they are with St. Helena—if we omit Napoleon's connection with it. Yet St. Helena has a much lengthier and more romantic history, stretching back 266 years as a British possession, while its present-day needs and possibilities outstrip Tristan's.

With so much happening to the Commonwealth in various forms and directions, the Colonial Office does well to issue a Report on this little parent isle. After all, without St. Helena there wouldn't have been a whole lot of British Empire.

The temptation to call St. Helena "the forgotten isle" must be resisted. Did not the King and Queen tour the island only two years ago? Nor is it more accurate to dub St. Helena "the loneliest island." Remote it is—the nearest point of the West African continent is 1,140 miles, and the South American coast is 1,800 miles to the westward—yet did not twenty-nine ships call during the last year of which there is record—1947?

We might be getting somewhere if we called St. Helena "Nobody's Child," since it does seem as if the oblivion which descends upon it is to some extent traceable to the island being arbitrarily passed from one geographical grouping to another. The effect is kin to that of being moved about in the Army: you leave your own outfit, carry on, and then when the honours and awards come round, find you have fallen between two stools.

The last adoption I can trace was by "West Africa," eleven years ago. In the century previous to that, St. Helena had been grouped with "the Mediterranean and Pacific Isles," with "Ceylon," and with "the West Indies." The Crown grouped the island with the West Indies on taking over from the East India Company in 1834, when there ended an epoch.

The great days of St. Helena were when she was the pampered darling of the Company, for whom the island was taken from the Dutch, who had taken it from the Portuguese; they lasted all of 160 years. If we have heard little of St. Helena since Napoleon, the world knew a lot about it long before the Tyrant ever became associated with the place. In the days of sail, St. Helena was one of the prime refitting and revictualling points of the wide world. Its role in naval strategy was such that, without Jamestown Roads to anchor in, several vital red markings on the map of the East and farther east would never have come about.

Now one of the least important and most impoverished members of the British Commonwealth, St. Helena once was, for her size, the most important of them all. Hundreds of homeward-bound vessels called and stayed each year. On top of this came world-wide notoriety that day the *Northumberland* arrived with "Boney." (It was only then that Tristan da Cunha was occupied, along with Ascension, as outlying points—the one 1,500 miles away, the other 700—fencing the Captive in.)

The islanders (many more than to-day) found themselves suddenly living in the most-talked-of spot in the whole world, and living right well, for that matter. The Company believed in "doing" the island well. They had slaves and all that, but did not stint the inhabitants, paid their officials handsomely, and maintained a small army, wives and children complete.

Then came the first of four blows to fall within a span of forty years.

On taking over in 1834, the Crown, or the Treasury, was in its most retrenching mood. The garrison was dispersed, and most of the officials were dismissed. Worse was to follow: the substitution of steamships for sail radically reduced the necessity of calling at the island. Thirdly, the piercing of the Suez Canal had the effect of re-routing shipping right away from St. Helena. To complete the bitter measure, new methods of preserving meat and vegetables removed almost the last need for vessels to call at Jamestown.

Now they call chiefly in connection with the mails, and to drop sightseers for a few hours; or to take on the island's only serious export—hemp, tow and rope to a weight of 1,200 tons a year, bringing £48,000. The size of shipped imports may be gleaned by their cost: £107,000. The world's ships could pass by St. Helena and not notice it. But the inhabitants would. They wait for "good" and "bad" captains. The former take care to anchor by day, so that sightseers may spend money ashore; the latter don't care if it 's day or night.

St. Helenians reckon that passengers from the England-Cape vessels spend about £200 during their few hours ashore, and this comparatively small sum is none the less something of a windfall. The money goes to the boatmen, to the drivers and owners of the few cars that take visitors up to Longwood, and to poor women who make lace, mats, necklaces of native seeds, and baskets of aloe fibre. No passengers, no other market for their wares!

GROWING HEMP ON NAPOLEON'S PRISON ISLAND—PLANTATIONS ON THE HIGH "RIDGELANDS": The industry, which was introduced into the Island by plants brought from New Zealand, now forms the main work of St. Helena. The industry is about thirty-five years old

A COUNTRY ROAD THROUGH ST. HELENA BORDERED BY HEMP PLANTATIONS: The crop, although usually grown under swamp or semi-swamp conditions in New Zealand, flourishes on many of the steepest hills in the Island. The bulk of the 1,000 tons of hemp exported annually comes to the United Kingdom, where it is manufactured into light cords of an expendable nature. About 60 tons are manufactured locally into twine and cord and exported to the Union of South Africa

Everything about St. Helena sounds Lilliputian except the landscape, which rises in valleys to an ex-volcanic ridge 2,700 ft. high, and the cliffs which may rise 2,000 ft. sheer on three sides of the island.

Reading of the island's affairs for the first time in a decade is like glancing at the chronicle of a far village. So far away that the postman has taken two years to deliver the letter (or Report).

Everything is on a miniature scale. The falling population (just under 5,000) lives three-parts in the only centre, Jamestown, the rest dotted over an island 10½ miles long by 6½ miles wide. As the Portuguese started from zero 440 years ago, the inhabitants may confidently be described as a mixture of Portuguese, Dutch, British, East Indian (including Chinese) and African.

All that is needed to maintain them is £40,000 in circulation. There is no bank. Expenditure in 1947 amounted to £96,000-odd, and the measure of St. Helena's decline may be gauged from the fact that it averaged £90,000 a year in the days of the Company, when the pound could buy many, many times more.

To-day revenue from import duties and taxes is only £34,000, so the rest has to be made up by grants from the United Kingdom.

St. Helena's miniature economy is well instanced by the Governor, who is at once ruler, law-maker and judge. There are on an average six people in prison and only two more in the madhouse. But unemployment rose to 140, mainly owing to the loss of two vegetable markets: when the British troops left, and when the Americans quit the airfield they had built on Ascension. St. Helena seems destined to be always losing something! Only flax-growing appears to endure. Wages? For men, 3s. 5d. a day; for women, 2s. 6d. and a forty-eight-hour week.

The war has notably depressed the St. Helenians' diet, installing a vegetarianism such as Sir S. Cripps may dream of visiting upon England, deeming it healthy, dignified and cheap. Whereas the islanders used to rely on bread, rice, and corned or salted beef, 'tis now, day in and day out, a case of fish and potatoes.

This historic isle is to-day down to an annual outlay of £57,000 for imports of food, stimulants and tobacco.

St. Helena is spending most on schools: fourteen new ones building, and the school population rising steeply to close on 1,200. Resultant overcrowding of classes and lack of fit teachers. Other features remind of conditions here in England. Inability to recruit hospital nurses; the burden of maintaining subsidies and full employment (23 per cent. of ordinary expenditure); a housing problem. But St. Helena really has one: only twenty-six homes built in a year, and poverty or prevention the causes.

How shabby it was of H.M.'s Treasury to collar most of the £10,000 which the island raised by the issue of a Coronation Stamp in 1937. And St. Helena's stamps known far and wide as beauteous revenue-earners. . . .

However, let 's be bright: there were only thirty-one deaths in 1947, and chicken-pox the only visitant. St. Helena has no income-tax, no newspapers, no broadcasting. The clergyman puts out a magazine, and an Information Officer publishes a news sheet compiled from B.B.C. bulletins. He also tours with silent documentary films.

St. Helena likewise lacks public transport of any kind, waterways and electric light. The capital is still lit by hurricane-lamps on moonless nights. And only sixty-five subscribe to the telephone.

"A happy, smiling people," comments author Philip Gosse. Long used to privation, "their wants are few, they dwell in a lovely isle, the climate is unrivalled." St. Helena might revive in three ways, and first as health resort and station for modest folk in retirement. They would live in the delightful middle land of brilliant green and the riot of flowers which so held Darwin.

For St. Helena is that rarity: a temperate isle set deep in the tropics. It reminded Mr. Gosse of Corsica or the Balearics, whereas a preceding student, Treasurer Pink, saw affinities with England, not only of speech and ways, but of scenery, conjuring up "a retired country district before the advent of railways."

Alas, each of these enthusiasts wrote before the local fish-and-potatoes regime.

The island's second hope is horticultural—growing for export small select crops like the famed St. Helena Christmas Lily.

Third hope—St. Helena as ocean airport—received a bad knock when the Americans packed up on Ascension, and nobody replaced them.

Whether St. Helena may figure slightly more on the records of the Royal Navy is a thought induced by the South African Nationalist desire that the Senior Service hand over Simonstown base. Jamestown Roads have had long association with Capetown.

THE SITE OF BRITAIN'S MAIN OVERSEAS MILITARY STORES DEPOT—THE TEMPORARY TENTED CAMP OF THE CONSTRUCTIONAL ENGINEERS ON THE MACKINNON ROAD, SEVENTY MILES INLAND FROM MOMBASA: Mackinnon Road was formerly a mere wayside halt on the main railway line from Mombasa to Uganda. The new depot will accommodate the vast quantity of military equipment now stored in the Middle East

KENYA'S GIANT DUMP

Where Our Middle and Near-Eastern Military Equipment is Being Accommodated

At the end of the war there was a vast quantity of military material stored in dumps throughout India and the Middle East, to which were later added the stores removed from Egypt during the evacuation by the British. During six months alone some 100,000 tons of stores were withdrawn from Alexandria and Cairo. In order to accommodate this huge collection, the Army authorities, like the Ministry of Food, opened up a virgin area of East Africa and began construction on what is to be a great central stores depot on the eastern edge of Kenya's scrub-covered Taru Desert. The depot at Mackinnon Road is to cover an area of several square miles and will be the major stores depot of the British Army overseas.

One of the earliest works undertaken in connection with the project was the construction of a pipe-line to convey water from the Tsavo River to Mackinnon Road, a distance of seventy miles. Next came the task of clearing the bush and then the erection of the temporary accommodation for the troops engaged on the building. Ultimately Mackinnon Road will become a modern town.

PROVIDING THE ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE TROOPS AT MACKINNON ROAD: The A.K.C. "Globe" presents a British film for two evening performances. The camp programmes are frequently changed

ARMY PATIENTS IN A TEMPORARY HOSPITAL AT MACKINNON ROAD ARE VISITED BY THEIR C.-IN-C.: General Sir John Crocker, C.-in-C. M.E.L.F., talks with patients in No. 53 British General Hospital

TWO OF THE BUILDINGS TAKE SHAPE IN AN AREA WHICH HAS BEEN CLEARED OF BUSH: *Left*—Roof trusses are assembled on the ground before being hoisted into position to form a small workshop. *Right*—One of the store sheds during construction. Known to the troops as "igloos," they are constructed with single-span arches some 150 ft. wide at the base. The steel girder framework is covered with thin steel to form a light but weatherproof roof

THE END OF AN HISTORIC SERIES OF TRIBUNALS : This was the scene at Nuremberg as twenty-one German officials, industrialists and economists who guided Nazi activities heard the judgment of the court. Two of the twenty-one men were freed. The man who received the heaviest sentence was Berger, the S.S. General (towards left ; wearing light uniform), who has gone to prison for twenty-five years for crimes against humanity. Von Weizsaecker (extreme left ; front row of dock) was head of the German Foreign Office under Von Ribbentrop during most of the war. Seated next to him are Dr. Ernest Woermann, former Under-Secretary of State, and Von Krosick, Finance Minister. In the background on the extreme left is Walter Darre, Minister of Agriculture, who was convicted of spoliation. Next to him is Dr. Otto Meissner, former chief of Hitler's Chancellery

News from Germany

THE LAST JUDGMENTS OF NUREMBERG

Twenty-one German Officials, Industrialists and Economists Receive Sentence

Since the trial of Goering and other Nazi leaders by an international military tribunal at Nuremberg there have been 177 defendants in the dock, apart from those who committed suicide in their cells or were released from trial because of illness, and of these 142 have been convicted and twenty-four sentenced to death by hanging. April 14 saw the last judgments of Nuremberg when twenty-one minor Nazis, among them diplomatists and Civil Servants, heard their sentences after the judges, who were not wholly in accord on all points, had examined 79,000 pages of evidence. The main questions in all cases was where the line must be drawn separating those innocent from those guilty of making war. The most straightforward case was that of Berger, the S.S. General, whose crimes against humanity were of the familiar order. Schwerin von Krosigh, a Rhodes scholar who for long served the Weimar Republic, assisted in the confiscation on a mass scale of property belonging to German Jews, and his Ministry took possession of no fewer than 33 tons of dental gold taken off persons murdered in concentration camps. He was convicted of plunder and spoliation. Those convicted of slave labour were Lammers, Pleiger and Kehzly, while Darre was among those sentenced for spoliation. Von Weizsaecker, head of the Foreign Office, was found guilty in assisting the seizure of Bohemia in 1939, in that he stultified all British and French attempts to frame a joint guarantee for Czech independence

DR. OTTO MEISSNER RECEIVES HIS RELEASE CERTIFICATE : Hitler's adviser on protocols, who had served Ebert and Hindenburg before him, leaving the court at Nuremberg after the trial. Behind him is Otto von Erdmannsdorf, former chief of the political division of the Foreign Office. Both were acquitted of charges of assisting in atrocities against civilians

THE JUDGES WHO WERE NOT UNANIMOUS: Judge Leon Powers (left), former member of the Iowa Supreme Court, Judge Christianson (centre), President of the Tribunal, and Judge Maguire, in the court at Nuremberg where they gave judgment. Judge Powers dissented from his colleagues on the grounds that none of the present accused had been actually on the policy-making level

BLESSING THE NEW BRIDGE : Dr. Josef Schroeffer, Roman Catholic Bishop of Eichstaett, crossing the steel bridge which carries the autobahn over the Danube at Ingolstadt. The bridge, which is over 400 yards long, was broken by S.S. troops in 1945

A RECORD DAY ON THE BERLIN AIR-LIFT : American Army officers congratulating the crew of an American freighter on its arrival in the city. It was the last of 1,383 Allied planes which flew in on a single day carrying 12,849 tons of freight to the beleaguered capital. During the first fortnight in April the average number of daily air-lift flights was well above 900

THE END OF A RECORD DAY : Brigadier-General Frank L. Howley, U.S. Commandant in Berlin, surrounded by members of the crew of the last of 1,383 air-lift planes which flew in on one day and German workers who had helped in unloading

AMERICAN AND RUSSIAN TROOPS MEET—AT THE GUARD-CHANGING CEREMONY AT SPANDAU, PRISON HOUSE OF RUDOLF HESS AND THE GRAND ADMIRALS RAEDER AND DOENITZ: A Russian guard is seen (left) taking over from the U.S. Military Police who are drawn up outside the fortress. The guards at Spandau are supplied in turn by the occupying Powers, and this ceremony now provides one of the few points of contact between the Russians and the Western Allies

FLOWN OUT BY AIR-LIFT: Men of the Royal Norfolk Regiment, who have served in Berlin since November 1947, about to board a Dakota aircraft at Gatow Airport on being relieved from duty in Berlin

FLOWN INTO BERLIN: Men of the 1st Battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers arriving at Gatow to relieve the 1st Battalion of the Royal Norfolk Regiment

"IMPASSE" ON THE LAKES: A water policeman of the West Sectors of Berlin guarding three steamboats from the Russian Zone of Germany which were seized and held with their captains by Western Berlin police authorities as they attempted to cross the Havel Lake, one of the lakes linking Berlin and Potsdam. The Havel Lake has been used during recent months for conveying goods into Berlin by flying-boat

1. THE HUNGARIAN PARLIAMENT IS DISSOLVED : The Prime Minister, Mr. Stephen Dobi, reads the Presidential announcement of the Dissolution and of the new elections

2. PACT-MAKING IN EASTERN EUROPE : Mr. Clementis (left), Czech Foreign Minister, and Mr. Kolarov, Bulgaria, ratifying in Sofia a treaty of mutual aid

3. "ROSE OF FLANDERS"—PRINCESS JOSEPHINE'S TRIUMPHANT TOUR : The daughter of King Leopold at La Panne, acknowledging popular greetings

1. HUNGARY BIDS GOOD-BYE TO CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY : On April 12 the Hungarian Parliament was dissolved and it will meet again after the new elections on May 15. Since the 1947 elections the Opposition in Hungary has been largely eliminated, and most of the Social Democrat leaders have either gone into exile, prison, or retirement, or merged with the Communists as the Hungarian Workers' Party. The Smallholders, the Peasant Party, Father Balogh's Party, and the Radicals have now joined the new Independence Front with the Workers' Party, which will go to the electorate on May 15 on a single list. It seems unlikely now that anyone will try to form a new Opposition. Hungary is now completing a three-year plan, and on January 1, 1950, she will begin a five-year plan "to transform the social and economic aspect of the country." In view of these momentous changes it was all the more surprising when Bishop Imre Revesz, one of the leaders of the Calvinist Church, delivered an eulogy on contemporary developments in Hungary when giving the Kossuth centenary sermon in the historic Church of Debrecen, where Kossuth proclaimed the short-lived Hungarian Republic 100 years ago. The President of Hungary and leading members of the Government heard the Bishop say that the breaking of the chains of economic and social slavery in 1945 was the completion of the glorious revolution of 1849.

2. FORGING THE LINKS IN THE EASTERN CHAIN : Czechoslovakia has lately signed treaties with Bulgaria and Hungary. They form the last bilateral links in the chain of twenty-one treaties under which the Soviet Union and her Eastern allies—with the exception of Albania—undertake to give immediate military aid to any one of the partners threatened by a revival of German aggression. The treaty between Czechoslovakia and Hungary is particularly remarkable, as it has to be remembered that three years ago, at the time of the Peace Conference in Paris, the Czechoslovak and Hungarian Governments were very much at loggerheads, the Czechs holding staunchly to their determination that every Hungarian should be expelled from Slovakia. The Hungarians, on the other hand, urged that the Hungarian minority should be left where it was and treated with the respect due to a large, compact and old-established section of the population. With the rise to dominance of Communists in Prague and Budapest, a settlement of the minority question was achieved, and the expulsion of Hungarians from Slovakia came to an end. Presumably both Czechs and Hungarians feel that continued differences are a point of weakness in the international structure of the "people's democracy."

WORLD NEWS IN PICTURES

A Survey of Foreign Affairs

3. PAVING THE WAY FOR LEOPOLD : Princess Josephine Charlotte, sister of the Duke of Brabant and the Prince of Liége, enjoyed a great

CAREFREE TITO : Yugoslavia's Premier and Minister of Defence, in navy blue uniform with gold epaulettes, looks by no means bowed down by Soviet disapprobation as he votes at the Third Congress of the People's Front of Yugoslavia in Belgrade. He had just previously denounced "lies and slanders" levelled at his Government by the Cominform

4, 5 and 6. ALPINE RESCUE ON AN ELABORATE SCALE—THE SEARCH FOR A GLACIER PATROL : A ski-equipped Fieseler Storch (*left*) searching for the bodies of missing patrolmen kept in wireless touch with ground parties who are seen (*in centre* and *on right*) making their way up the slopes in the region of the Matterhorn

7. **THE 'QUAKE THAT ROCKED AMERICA'S NORTH-WEST:** Cracks in a path in Green Lake Park, Seattle. 150,000 square miles were shaken

8. **WRECKAGE ON YESLER WAY, SEATTLE:** Damaged cars in the down-town section of the city following the mid-April earthquake. Five people were killed in the City of Seattle

personal triumph when she drove through Flanders in mid-April, and there were also remarkable scenes of enthusiasm outside the Palace of Laeken. The Princess, who was spending a short holiday with her grandmother, Queen Elizabeth, was paying her first visit to Belgium since the Royal Family was deported by the Germans five years ago. Village bells pealed as her car passed along the coast road villages to La Panne, and it entered La Panne over a road inches deep in flower petals. Canvas strung across the road bore a picture of King Leopold and the words: "Flanders is faithful—to-day we welcome the daughter—to-morrow the father, Our King."

4, 5 and 6. A SEARCH AMID THE ALPINE SNOWS: One of the biggest rescue attempts made in the Alps came to an end recently when the bodies of three soldiers who vanished during a glacier patrol race were located in a crevasse near the Matterhorn. Before the bodies were found, searchers covered miles of perilous snow-covered mountain tracks. They had the co-operation of a Fieseler Storch rescue plane, which was in constant touch with them by "Walkie-Talkie" radio, and which dropped supplies to the hut headquarters of the rescue parties. Rescue work was made difficult by high winds and light snowfalls.

THE WAR LORD WHO PLANS TO FIGHT ON: Ma Pu-Fang, member of the celebrated Ma family and Governor of Tsinghai Province, declares that he will not make peace with the Communists. Ma's cousin, Provincial Governor of Ningsai, says he will also continue the fight. The cousins may now join forces and link up their territories by invading Kansu

7 and 8. THE CITIES OF PUGET SOUND HARD HIT BY THE EARTHQUAKE: Seattle, Tacoma and Olympia suffered the greatest damage in the 'quake which shook the American North-West. Thousands of people poured out of sky-scraper buildings and stores when a preliminary series of small shocks, followed by heavy rocking, occurred in the business section. Parked cars were badly smashed by falling bricks; chimneys tottered from many homes, and ominous cracks appeared in buildings, sidewalks and bridges. There were no tidal waves on Puget Sound. Towns in Oregon and British Columbia were also shaken, the 'quakes covering an area of 150,000 square miles. Nearly all the deaths were due to falling brickwork.

9. WILL CHIANG KAI-SHEK STAND TRIAL? One obstacle blocking the way to peace in China has been the first of Mao Tze-tung's eight peace terms, which demands the punishment of war criminals. This has now been changed, it is understood, to "a determination of the responsibility for the Civil War." It seems likely that if captured, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek would have to stand trial. For the last few months he has been living at his retreat near Chikow, but it is not to be thought that he is immersed wholly in rural pursuits. He has continued steadily to interfere in affairs, and often his orders and directives to harassed Ministers have been of a sweepingly impractical nature.

10 and 11. THE CHINESE PEACE OUTLOOK: While Nanking students demonstrate for an end to hostilities and most of China's millions are heartily sick of the war, a Nationalist peace mission has been struggling in Peking to make terms with Mao Tze-tung and his Communists, and at the same time a big battle has been developing for the Yangtze crossings. In mid-April three Communist armies were poised ready to cross the great river, and on April 22 it was reported that an advance guard of 30,000 was already on the south shore. Meanwhile, conditions in Shanghai and Nanking steadily deteriorated. The cost of living in Shanghai soared by 345 per cent. in the first fifteen days of April. The cost-of-living index issued by the city Government on April 15 was 15,000 times the figure for August 19. The Government printing presses have been hard at work keeping up with the wild inflation.

9. **CHIANG KAI-SHEK IN "TEMPORARY" RETIREMENT:** The Generalissimo at Chikow, where he strolls the hills in a U.S.-made fur jacket

10. **NANKING STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE:** They lay down to bring home to citizens their undernourished state. They demand an end to civil war

11. **THE START OF NEW PEACE TALKS:** This Nationalist delegation flew to Peking at the beginning of April in order to discuss Mao Tze-tung's eight-point peace programme

THE SHAKESPEARE MEMORIAL THEATRE AT STRATFORD, WHERE THE SEASON STARTED ON APRIL 16 WITH ANTHONY QUAYLE'S PRODUCTION OF "MACBETH": A view o the modern theatre beside the banks of the Avon, which between the wars replaced the theatre built in 1878. This year marks the 333rd anniversary o Shakespeare's death at New Place, Stratford. The first production, "Macbeth," was followed on April 19 by Mr. Gielgud's "Much Ado About Nothing," and on April 23 by the birthday play "A Midsummer Night's Dream," presented by Michael Benthall. "Othello," "Cymbeline," and "Henry VIII" will follow

THE BRILLIANTLY-ILLUMINATED MEMORIAL THEATRE CASTS ITS REFLECTIONS UPON THE DARKNESS OF THE RIVER AVON: This was the scene outside the theatre on the first night of the new season when Anthony Quayle's effective and sombre production of "Macbeth" was presented to a large gathering of celebrities. This year Stratford is expecting crowds of pre-war size, and is preparing in particular for a rush of visitors from the United States

"Greener is April, boasting of thy birth; more blossomed May because she swaddled thee," wrote T. W. H. Crosland in his fine sonnet, *On Shakespeare*. These spring months, indeed, belong essentially to the poet of Stratford, for April 23 was the day of Shakespeare's death at New Place. It is always celebrated as the day of his birth, for he was christened on April 26, 1564. It is certainly the day when the English-speaking world does honour to his memory. At the moment Stratford is thronged with visitors. Many visitors, needless to say, have been out to Shottery to see Anne Hathaway's cottage, for without that visit the Stratford pilgrimage would hardly be complete. The gardens at Shottery have never looked lovelier than they do now.

FESTIVAL TIME at STRATFORD

The 1949 Season Starts with *Macbeth*

DUNCAN'S MURDER IS DISCOVERED AND MACBETH'S CASTLE AT INVERNESS IS THROWN INTO A FERMENT: Macbeth (Godfrey Tearle; on stairs, left) and Lady Macbeth (Diana Wynyard) in Anthony Quayle's Stratford production. Mr. Tearle's Macbeth is outstanding, and he received a great ovation in making his debut in this part after fifty years on the English stage

DIANA WYNYARD AS LADY MACBETH IN THE SLEEP-WALKING SCENE: It was in this scene that Miss Wynyard fell to the ground from a height of 5 ft. Despite her unfortunate injury she carried on, giving a performance that one critic described as "effective, forceful and malignant"

THE ART OF EDGAR RITCHARD: The brother of Cyril Ritchard completing a mural decoration in the Stratford Theatre, where he was at work prior to the start of the Festival. The preparations for the season at Stratford started soon after the New Year

ANN HATHAWAY'S COTTAGE AT SHOTTERY—A PLACE OF PILGRIMAGE FOR ALL WHO VISIT THE SHAKESPEARE COUNTRY: The cottage contains relics of the Hathaways, including a settle on which Shakespeare courted Ann. The cottage was acquired in 1894 by the Trustees of Shakespeare's birthplace

RE-THATCHING THE OLD BLACK-AND-WHITE COTTAGES OF SHOTTERY: In the background is Quiney's where Judith, Shakespeare's younger daughter and the twin of Hamnet, lived with her husband, Thomas Quiney, the wine merchant

IN THE GARDEN AT THE BACK OF WILD THYME COTTAGE, SHOTTERY: It is cultivated by Mr. J. Shimell Andrew, a retired architect, who has lived there for more than twenty years. Round the old well grow aubretia and polyanthus

GODFREY TEARLE RECEIVES CONGRATULATIONS ON HIS DEBUT AS MACBETH: The veteran actor greeted by the Mayor of Stratford, Colonel Fordham Flower, and members of his party on the first night of Anthony Quayle's production of "Macbeth." Mr. Tearle made his very first appearance on the stage in "Richard II" at Burnley in 1893. He was born in New York in 1884

TOASTING THE SUCCESS OF THE STRATFORD SEASON: Margaret Leighton, brilliant graduate of Birmingham Repertory and the Old Vic, Mrs. Anthony Quayle (Dorothy Hyson), producer Anthony Quayle and Mr. Max Reinhardt, the publisher, celebrating the success of Mr. Quayle's production of "Macbeth." Mr. Quayle follows Sir Barry Jackson as Director at Stratford-on-Avon

POLITICAL PORTRAITS

Some Personalities in the World News

On right—Before coming to London for the Commonwealth Conference, Pandit Nehru brought together in New Delhi the representatives of Afghanistan, Australia, Burma, Ceylon, China, Egypt, Iran, Nepal and Pakistan with a view to reviewing the situation as it had developed in Indonesia since the Conference last met. The Asian bloc, it would seem, has been deeply critical of the "over-timid handling" of the Indonesian dispute on the Security Council of the United Nations. The New Delhi meeting also gave an opportunity for Burma's Premier to sound out Mr. Nehru regarding points which might arise at the Commonwealth Conference in London.

PANDIT NEHRU PRESIDES AT THE NEW DELHI CONFERENCE: The Indian Prime Minister with Thakin Nu, the Prime Minister of Burma, on his right hand. On the extreme right is Dr. Thant Khoman, the Siamese Chargé d'Affaires in India, and on Mr. Nehru's left hand are representatives of India's Ministry of External Affairs. Eleven countries were represented

EIRE'S MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS PAYS A VISIT TO CHICAGO: Mr. Sean MacBride (centre) with leading Irish-American citizens, whom he met during his recent stay in Illinois. On the left are Mr. Roger Faherty, Past-President of the Irish Fellowship Club, and Mr. Sean Nunan, Eire's Minister to Washington. On the extreme right is Mr. John Conway, Eire's Consul in Chicago. Mr. MacBride was in America on Independence Day, when Ireland celebrated the Republic, but his mother, Maud Gonne, was a notable figure at the O'Connell Street Parade and other festivities

THE DUCHESS OF VALENCIA IS RELEASED FROM PRISON: The thirty-two-year-old Duchess, who was sentenced for pro-Monarchist activities, admiring a picture of Prince Juan Carlos, son of the Spanish Pretender, when she was convalescent in a Madrid prison hospital after an operation for appendicitis. The Duchess has since been set free and she was escorted to her home by armed Falangist guards because of a threatening letter she received while in prison. The Duchess says that she will on no account give up her campaign for the return of the Monarchy to Spain

THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF ISRAEL PAYS A VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES: Dr. Chaim Weizmann at New York International Airport with his wife, Vera Weizmann, and his son, Benjamin Weizmann (right). In the background is Henry Morgenthau Junior, Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal. Dr. Weizmann's arrival came on the eve of the world-wide celebration by Jews of the Passover, marking the Exodus from Egypt, and on the day the United Nations General Assembly referred his nation's bid for membership to the Political Committee. In an interview the President warned that the embryo nation which he led still faced the possibility of military attack

DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGES IN CANTON: Mr. N. V. Roschin (left), the Soviet Ambassador to China, toasts China's Prime Minister, General Ho Ying Chin (right), at a cocktail party held for diplomatic representatives in the new capital. General Ho Ying Chin's Cabinet is described as a Peace Cabinet, being without the Kuomintang die-hards. General Ho Ying Chin was at pains to appoint a suitable Ambassador to Moscow, his choice falling upon Dr. Fu Ping Chang, and from the outset it was considered that he would have a better chance of making peace than ex-Premier Sun Fo

SOARING ABOVE DUNSTABLE DOWNS: In this glider Ladislav Marmol, a former member of a Royal Air Force Czech squadron, made his attempt to beat the world gliding record of 44 hrs. 17 mins. set up by the Frenchman Guy Marchand. Eventually Marmol landed after 33 hrs. 5 mins., being compelled to come down because the wind dropped suddenly and there were no upward gusts to sustain him. Marmol flew mostly at 700 ft. Soon after he was launched he ran into cloud and met with heavy bumping, but the south-westerly gale sustained him all through the first night, and there were times when he had great difficulty in keeping awake. Marmol had a wireless and a stock of benzedrine tablets to help him fight drowsiness. Only a week before Marmol had made another attempt on the world record, but on that occasion he was foiled by a change in the wind

33 HOURS in a GLIDER

A Czech Pilot's Record Bid at Dunstable

LADISLAV MARMOL DURING AND AFTER HIS RECORD-BREAKING ATTEMPT: *Left*—The Czech pilot in his glider, and (*right*) emerging from the cockpit after landing near the Dunstable Clubhouse. He beat his own British gliding record of 25 hours. During his 33-hour flight Marmol demonstrated his fitness by making loops, and playing follow-the-leader with accompanying gliders. He said that after taking off he was bumped about so much that he nearly lost the "collar" with which he was fastened to the glider. But for that Marmol said the trip was uneventful. He has been gliding since 1934, and holds the coveted Silver C Certificate of the glider pilot. Dunstable, where he made his attempt, is recognised as the headquarters of British gliding

PRESIDENT O'KELLY INSPECTS THE GUARD OF HONOUR OF IRISH ARMY OFFICER CADETS OUTSIDE THE DUBLIN G.P.O. : This was the prelude to the military parade down O'Connell Street, one of the big events of Independence Day, when, under the newly-passed Republic of Ireland Act, the Twenty-six Counties severed their last formal connection with the British Commonwealth. The King has now ceased to have any function in association with Eire. Previously all Eire's diplomatic representatives abroad and foreign diplomats in Dublin had been accredited through His Majesty. Last week's celebrations coincided with the anniversary of the 1916 Rebellion, and Dublin was a blaze of tricolours

EX-PREMIER DE VALERA KNEELS ON ARBOUR HILL BESIDE THE GRAVES OF MEN OF THE IRISH REPUBLICAN ARMY : The Leader of Fianna Fail attending a ceremony on Independence Day. Mr. de Valera did not take part in the celebrations connected essentially with the proclamation of the Republic. He and his supporters declare that the time to rejoice will be "when all Ireland is a Republic." Mr. de Valera will be speaking on Partition in London on Sunday, May 1

EIRE Becomes a REPUBLIC

The Twenty-six Counties Sever the Last Formal Link with the Commonwealth

The Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1921 brought a new dominion into being. The compromise was reached because both sides were determined to put an end to internecine war, which had ravaged Ireland since 1916. But the Irish Free State emerged in more bloodshed, and the Civil War of 1922 dragged on for many months before the new State began to live under the terms of its new constitution. In the '30's came the rise to power of Mr. de Valera, and although this American-born Irishman became the "pilot" of the Free State, drafting the constitution of 1937 and maintaining the country's neutrality through the war, he failed in the election of February 1948. De Valera was defeated by the five-party Coalition of Mr. Costello, and thus the controller of Fianna Fail, by far the largest party in the State, went into opposition. Last week he saw his rival cut the last links with the Commonwealth and proclaim the Republic of Ireland. Mr. de Valera and his supporters did not participate in the celebrations, nor were those celebrations as fervent as they might have been. In fact, the Irish Grand National at Fairyhouse proved a very strong counter-attraction but, nevertheless, Dublin was a blaze of green, white and gold tricolours, and the flags, the floodlighting and the salvos were greeted joyfully enough at a dual ceremony which marked also the anniversary of the 1916 Rebellion.

THE MARCH-PAST OF THE IRISH ARMY : Troops giving "Eyes left" to President O'Kelly as they passed down O'Connell Street in the big military parade on Independence Day. Mr. O'Kelly stood on a canopied dais between the pillars of the General Post Office, scene of some of the bitterest fighting during the 1916 Rebellion. A huge map showing all Ireland as one unit hung between the columns of the Post Office, and the columns were also draped with laurel wreaths

A VETERAN IN THE REPUBLICAN CAUSE : Maud Gonne, the aged mother of Sean MacBride, Eire's Foreign Minister, supported by Mrs. MacBride and her son, Tiernan MacBride, as she appeared in Dublin for the Independence Day celebrations. Maud Gonne, stormy petrel of Irish politics, was the inspiration of W. B. Yeats' "Kathleen na Houlihan"

EIRE'S ARMED MIGHT ON PARADE : Armoured cars passing the Post Office during the military parade, which was watched by 50,000 people. Ireland has only a small defence force, the establishment being a permanent force of 12,500 officers and men. The first- and second-line reserves consist of 60,000 men, the former being fully-trained men and the latter territorials

WAY OF THE "EAGLE"—BRITAIN'S LARGEST CARRIER, WHICH WAS LAUNCHED BY PRINCESS ELIZABETH AT BELFAST IN 1946, ON THE WAY FROM BELFAST TO LIVERPOOL FOR PAINTING BENEATH THE WATER-LINE AND THE FITTING OF SCREWS, IN THE GLADSTONE DOCK: The "Eagle," second ship of the Ark Royal class, will have a displacement of 36,800 tons and, with the "Ark Royal," will be the largest British carrier, being double the size of "Albion." "Bulwark" "Centaur" and "Hermes," which are also at present under construction. The "Eagle," when completed, will be at one and the same time a ship, an operational airfield, a fortress and a small town of over 2,000 inhabitants. She will carry sixteen 4·5-in. guns, dual-purpose and radar-controlled, and in her hangars will be more than 100 aircraft. By comparison the United States Navy has three 45,000-ton carriers, the "Coral Sea," the "Franklin D. Roosevelt" and the "Midway." These take approximately 140 aircraft

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST CARRIER

And Two Important New Military Aircraft

THE ARMSTRONG WHITWORTH APOLLO, A NEW UNIVERSAL GENERAL-PURPOSE AIRCRAFT PRIMARILY INTENDED FOR USE AT COMPARATIVELY HIGH SPEEDS OVER SHORT AND MEDIUM RANGES: Available as a commercial or military machine, the Apollo will normally be powered by four Armstrong Siddeley Mamba II gas-turbine engines, driving de Havilland 10-ft.-diameter three-bladed constant-speed feathering and reversing airscrews. The three military versions of the Apollo are a freighter, an ambulance and a paratroop carrier. As a freighter it could carry two jeeps and a 25-pounder field-gun with limber. As an ambulance there would be accommodation for twenty stretcher cases

THE SHACKLETON TO JOIN COASTAL COMMAND— A. V. ROE'S POWERFUL NEW PISTON-ENGINED AIRCRAFT DESIGNED FOR LONG-RANGE RECONNAISSANCE DUTIES, INCLUDING SHADOWING AND STRIKING AT BOTH UNDERWATER AND SURFACE VESSELS: The Shackleton is powered by four Rolls-Royce Griffon engines and has a total of nearly 10,100 h.p. for take-off. It carries a crew of ten

The Avro 694 Lincoln is virtually a scaled-up version of the Lancaster. In fact, the Lincoln I and II were known originally as the Lancaster IV and V. Now, as a development of the Lincoln, the standard post-war heavy bomber of the R.A.F., comes the Avro 696 Shackleton which closely resembles the Lincoln II. Those with an eye to aircraft identification will be the first to observe, however, that the Shackleton has a radar blister beneath the nose. In addition to its bomb-load, the heavy offensive armament of the Shackleton includes two forward-firing 20-mm. cannon. These are mounted in remotely controlled barbettes on either side of the nose, and there are two 0·5-in. machine-guns in the tail turret. A single bomb compartment, occupying the full width of the fuselage, extends from the radar dome to a spot several feet aft of the main plane's trailing edge. The Shackleton will be the most powerful piston-engined aircraft in the R.A.F. After the initial flights of the prototype in March it was put into production

TAKING A CAR TO THE CONTINENT: The first scheduled air ferry service for motorists travelling to the Continent began at Lympne Airport, Kent, when a Bristol freighter of Silver City Airways took off for Le Touquet. The service runs three times daily in each direction. The fare for a car up to 14 ft. in length with four passengers and baggage is £27. The petrol tank of the car may be three-quarters full, so that the motorist can drive on to the aircraft and off again at Le Touquet, reached after a flight of less than twenty minutes' duration. The Bristol freighter can carry two cars at a time and a total of ten passengers. The new service will play some part, at any rate, in relieving the great strain on the ship ferries which, according to the A.A., are already booked up months in advance

A NEW 30-SEATER FRENCH PASSENGER AIRCRAFT: The twin-engined S.O. 30 has a cruising speed of 250 m.p.h. and a range of 1,800 miles. France also produces the S.E. 2010 Armagnac, a long-range machine planned for the transatlantic service and in some ways comparable with the Stratocruiser. She is not relying, however, on her home products, and during 1949 has allocated 12,000,000 dollars for the purchase of the latest American aircraft

AIR-LIFTING CARS TO THE CONTINENT

And Other Aviation News of the Moment

THE FIRST HELICOPTER TO COMPLETE A COAST-TO-COAST FLIGHT IN THE UNITED STATES: The new Hiller 360 arriving at the Downtown Skyport, New York, on completing the last leg of the journey of 5,000 miles from California. Stanley Hiller, Jnr., the helicopter's manufacturer, piloted the machine, and he is seen a few moments before touching down in Manhattan

AERIAL MARATHON AT SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA: Dick Riedel reaches for more fuel while his partner, Bill Harris, handles the controls of their single-engined aircraft "Sunkist Lady" during the last re-fuelling operation before breaking the world endurance flight record of 726 hours. When the pilots had been aloft 850 hours they declared they expected to stay airborne for "two weeks—or perhaps a month or more"

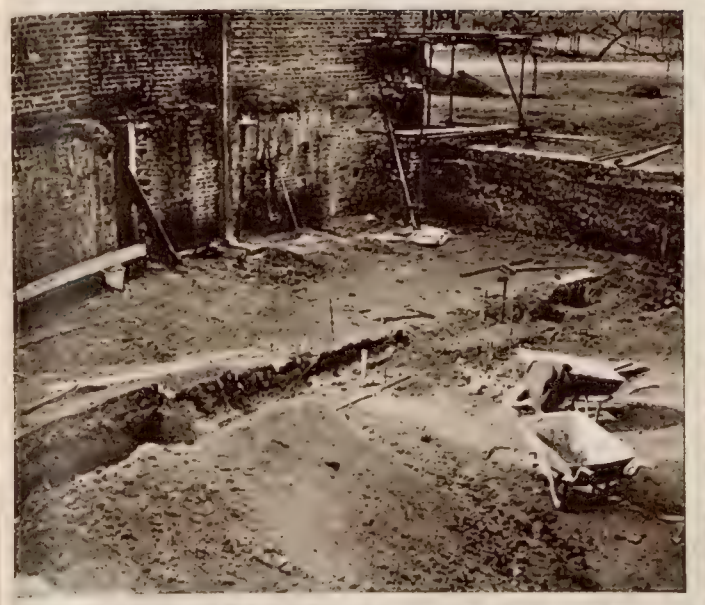
WORK BEGINS ON THE REBUILDING OF HISTORIC GRAY'S INN: The Hall, built about 1555 to 1560, was badly bombed during the war, and the building gutted. The foundations of the Hall and the seventeenth-century Chapel had to be examined and strengthened before the work of restoration could begin. Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors" was produced at Gray's Inn Hall in 1594. The gardens, which were laid out by Francis Bacon when he was Treasurer of Gray's Inn, were a fashionable promenade in the seventeenth century, and it was there that Sir Walter Raleigh had a long interview with Bacon, just before starting on his last voyage. Gray's Inn has existed as a school of law since 1371. During the war it suffered considerable damage by bombing. The library, the Chapel and the Hall were gutted and many of the offices were so badly damaged that they have had to be demolished. The work of restoring the less badly hit portions has now started, and it is hoped that the totally destroyed buildings will be rebuilt in the near future. Several interesting relics have been uncovered in the process of digging foundations for the new buildings, including pottery and glassware; and an underground vault was also revealed, pictures of which appear on the opposite page.

THE BENCHERS' ENTRANCE TO THE HALL AT GRAY'S INN: The Hall was begun in the reign of Queen Mary and finished in the reign of Elizabeth. It cost £863 10s. 8d. and was acknowledged to be "little inferior to Middle Temple Hall." It is interesting to speculate how far the original cost of the building would go towards effecting the repairs, which are now being carried out

Rebuilding Bombed London

RESTORING GRAY'S INN: NEW LABORATORIES FOR KING'S COLLEGE

THE STATUE OF FRANCIS BACON IN THE SOUTH SQUARE OF GRAY'S INN: The name of Lord Bacon is one of the greatest of those associated with the Inn, of which he was appointed Lord Keeper in 1617. It is believed that his "Essay on Gardens" was inspired by the Gray's Inn garden, which he laid out when Treasurer of the Inn



THE SITE OF THE UNDERGROUND VAULT, DISCOVERED DURING THE DIGGING OF FOUNDATIONS FOR THE NEW BUILDINGS: The vault extends from the two holes, seen on the right centre of the picture, to the wall on the right and back to the rear wall

THE WORK OF RECONSTRUCTION PROCEEDS AT GRAY'S INN: The less badly damaged buildings are being repaired, but some were so badly hit that they have had to be demolished. The new buildings will be constructed as soon as possible and work on them has already begun

THE HOLES WHICH REVEALED THE ANCIENT VAULT: Workmen made the discovery in the course of reconstruction work at Gray's Inn. A number of other interesting finds were also made

THE SKELETON OF THE GRAY'S INN CHAPEL: The Chapel was built about 1688-99 on the site of an earlier chapel, which dated from the beginning of the fourteenth century. In 1600, all gentlemen of the Inn were ordered to use the chapel and to receive communion there every term if they were in commons or resided in the house. The penalty for not doing so was the payment of 3s. 4d. for each time they neglected to receive communion and the liability of expulsion if they did not receive it at least once a year

CLEARING THE BOMB CRATER IN THE QUADRANGLE OF KING'S COLLEGE: Two aspects of the great crater, where a mechanical excavator is at work. New laboratories, for research in electrical and civil engineering and bio-physics, will be built on the site. The project, which has been planned by Mr. Stephen Stanton, will take two years to complete and the laboratories will be constructed underground, with the roof of the building forming the new quadrangle. When the crater has been cleared, work on the foundations will be begun. The building, housing the three laboratories, will be of two-storey construction

1. THE NEW ZEALANDERS TUNE UP FOR THE CRICKET SEASON: Members of the touring team on the way out to the nets at Eastbourne for a spell of practice prior to the start of their arduous tour, which opened with a semi-official one-day match played against Colonel Stevens's XI on the Eastbourne ground

2. KENT'S FIRST ALUMINIUM SCHOOL: One of the prefabricated sections going into place at Grays Farm County Primary School, St. Paul's Cray

1. THE NEW ZEALANDERS IN ENGLAND: At the very start of April the Dominion visitors were practising at the nets at Lord's, and later in the month they went down to Eastbourne, where they put in some more practice before last week's opening one-day match against L. C. Stevens's XI. First impressions can be misleading, but both at the nets and in the Eastbourne match there was evidence that in B. Sutcliffe the visitors have a young left-handed batsman who will be greatly admired this summer. His record in New Zealand is a tale of almost uninterrupted century-making, and at Eastbourne he was immensely impressive in the freedom of his stroke play, scoring a notable 95 on the opening day. The four Test Matches which are to be played this year are limited to three days, and this, it is hoped, will inspire a spirit of adventurousness. That spirit has been evident enough in post-war County cricket and there is no reason why it should be excluded from Tests. Mann and his men in South Africa pointed the way clearly enough last winter.

2. SCHOOL-BUILDING WITHOUT TEARS: The first of five schools to be built by the Kent County Council in aluminium prefabricated sections is now well under way. The school will be known as the Grays Farm County Primary School and is at St. Paul's Cray. The walls and roofs are of aluminium alloy in prefabricated sections supplied by the Bristol Aeroplane Housing Company, and they are delivered to the site ready for erection. Thus much time and labour, apart from materials, are saved. The block illustrated in course of erection will house five class-rooms and one general-purpose room. The whole school will accommodate 360 children.

3. THE FATE OF BETTESHANGER: At Easter the 3,000 workers of this Kent colliery near Deal heard with dismay that they had fourteen days' notice. It was rumoured that the pit, the largest in Kent and one on which the town of Deal is in part dependent, would have to close. It appears that production costs are very high, and that the tonnage, despite elaborate mechanisation, is small in comparison. Within recent weeks output has fallen from 13,500 tons to 9,733 tons per week. Wage rates until recently were the highest in the country. Meanwhile the National Coal Board and the National Union of Mineworkers have been discussing the whole situation. There was a resounding defeat for the Communists when the miners of Betteshanger voted by an overwhelming majority for leaving negotiations in the hands of the local union branch.

A SURVEY of the HOME NEWS

Pictures from London and the Provinces

4. PROGRESS OF THE LOCH SLOY POWER SCHEME: For two and a half years men, mostly

A WINNING LEAD: One-armed rider, Mr. G. J. Phillips, a Gloucestershire farmer, winning the Adjacent Hunts Race at the point-to-point meeting of the Old Berkshire at Farringdon, on his horse Megson. Mr. Phillips uses specially made reins for bridle-wise Megson

3. FOURTEEN DAYS' NOTICE TO QUIT AT BETTESHANGER: The largest of the Kent collieries, where steeply rising costs have made it necessary for the Coal Board to consider closing the pit

4. THEY MET UNDER THE MOUNTAIN: Workers who have cut the tunnel under Ben Vorlich for Loch Sloy's power scheme

5. THE SHIP WHICH DID NOT SAIL : The engineless "Aldora" in which two families have made their home at Gillingham after being offered passages to Australia

6. TWO FAMILIES WITH A BIG GROUSE : The Smalls and the Gurnetts in the Captain's cabin of the "Aldora," where they take their meals

Poles, have been tunnelling under Ben Vorlich in connection with the Scottish Hydro-Electric Board's scheme to develop power on Lomondside. Recently they met about midway, and there were congratulations all round as the two parties linked up. With the extension announced last January the Loch Sloy venture will produce an annual output of 115,000,000 units from the generating station at Inveruglas, Loch Lomond.

5 and 6. AUSTRALIAN MISADVENTURE : The search for Sidney Stanley led to the discovery by police officials of two emigrant families who boarded a 400-ton former minesweeper at Gillingham, Kent, last January for Australia. A fortnight ago during the search for Stanley, marine surveyors were astonished to find the minesweeper inhabited. All around her lie disused cables and former equipment used for trailing magnetic mines. Close investigation of the minesweeper did not disclose Sidney Stanley, but revealed the story of how Edward Gurnett decided to sell up his home and take his family to Australia where a carpenter's job waits for him. Although offered an assisted passage, the Gurnetts found a long queue, until one day outside Australia House they saw a young man in a car bearing a poster "Immediate passage to Australia—Why Wait." Later Mr. Gurnett and Mr. Small handed over a total of about £800 for the two families. That was last November. In January the families arrived on the *Aldora* lying at Gillingham. And that is as far as they have got to Australia. For the minesweeper has no engine. The City of London Fraud Squad are now investigating the story.

7. V.H.F. RADIO PLAYS ITS PART ON THE RAILWAYS : Very high frequency radio is now extensively used by London Transport Executive engineers during their work in bringing new signalling installations into service on the railways and for reporting back to H.Q. during breakdowns. This radio communication is used between the signalling cabin and the points or signals for checking their correct operation. Previously the reports were made *via* the nearest telephone which caused considerable delay. It is proving highly valuable in cases of breakdowns, for the high intensity of London Transport services demands the minimum of time for repairs, and the radio on the spot reports progress or calls reinforcements in men or equipment.

8. CAVE CANEM ! Police dogs, in charge of special night-duty keepers, are now being used as a Ministry of Works experiment to stop hooliganism in London parks. Hundreds of pounds worth of flowers, hedges and fences were destroyed during last summer, and keepers believe that the presence of the dogs—specially trained Boxers—will keep hooligans away from the pavilions and restaurants. The dogs patrol the park in charge of a keeper from 10 p.m. till 6 a.m.

9. RESURRECTING A FAMOUS FOSSIL : Work has begun on the re-erection of the fossil tree trunk which before the war stood in the garden of the Natural History Museum, South Kensington. It was 30 ft. high, but was blown down by a bomb in 1940, and has since lain in pieces on the ground. The fossil belongs to the Lower Carboniferous period, approximately 250,000,000 years ago. It was discovered in Craigleith Quarry, Edinburgh, when stone was being cut for the making of the museum's front steps. The quarry owner had it cut into sections and sent to the Museum in 1876. There the sections were cemented together and set upright.

A NEW VERSION OF THE OLD BULL AND BUSH : Mr. F. Wiggins, of Ind Coope's, and Mr. William Horner, the landlord of the Bull and Bush, Hampstead, viewing the inn's new sign which is being displayed for the benefit of customers, who are asked to comment

7. CHECKING A SIGNAL IN ACTION : Transport technicians using "walkie-talkie" radio in order to facilitate the check with signal-box officials

8. THE DOG WATCH ON THE LONDON PARKS : This two-year-old Boxer is a member of a team of dogs recruited to put down hooliganism. The dogs patrol at night

9. A TREE TRUNK 250,000,000 YEARS OLD : The celebrated Natural History Museum fossil, damaged in 1940, is to be re-erected in South Kensington

STAFF WORK of the HOLIDAY CAMP

Organising the Planned Holiday

By CHARLES GRAVES

NEXT week the holiday camping season will be in full swing, though at least one, at Clacton, was open at Easter. I was down there myself acting as Quiz Master and was thus able to study this modern phenomenon at close range.

Holiday camps, the proprietors of which are now beginning to call them holiday villages, are self-contained settlements in which the guests' needs are supplied for an all-in charge. They provide sleeping accommodation, usually in separate chalets, communal dining arrangements and organised amusements. Cinema shows, musical entertainments, plays, concerts and dancing are regular features of the bigger camps, together with bathing-pools, sports fields, nurseries and playgrounds. They are not really camps at all; nor are they big hotels. They are complete holiday resorts in themselves. Prices vary from 5 to 9 guineas a week.

The chalets are built in long lines separated by lawns and flower-beds. Every few yards there are lavatories and bathrooms, so that the maximum distance that anyone has to walk is only a matter of yards. Chalet maids make up the beds, but leave personal possessions of the campers strictly alone.

All forms of games equipment can be hired free, the only deposit required being the applicant's chalet key. In this way tennis rackets, tennis balls, putters, golf balls, ping-pong bats and ping-pong balls can be borrowed on the spot. In the case of billiard cues these do not require even the deposit of the chalet key. Whist drives are a regular feature of the activities of the entertainments officer and his staff. Except for this, however, it is seldom that campers are ever observed to play cards.

Several camps have an adjoining fun fair where Dodgems, rifle ranges, pulsometers and all the other attractions of an amusement park are available—at the usual prices. Some camps supply bowling greens. Most good camps have swimming-pools and provide programmes which, if the camper has sufficient energy, fill every minute of his holiday. There is no need, however, for campers to indulge in any of the organised games; but they are available if required. Much emphasis is laid on sport and the competitive spirit. Some camps are divided into four "Houses" on the public-school system and members of different houses are encouraged to acquire a House spirit in all inter-House competitions, which occur almost daily. Not that any encouragement is really necessary. It is instinctive in the campers. At some places there is a scientifically regulated programme incorporating beauty contests, physical training, horse-riding, Brains Trusts, discussions and debates, in addition to all available sports. In 1946 the campers at Filey were visited by the entire San Carlo Opera Company from Italy. Among the artistes engaged to entertain the campers have been Gracie Fields, George Robey, Vic Oliver and Frances Day.

To ensure efficiency, holiday camps have to be run with the precision of a military operation which must not fail. Consequently, a large staff is employed, and in the largest ones the proportion of personnel is one to every three or four campers. The staff work at tremendous pressure, especially on Saturdays, dealing with reception of new campers and the departure of those who have just finished their week's holiday. A real *blitzkrieg* has to be made on the cleaning of the chalets and the changing of bed-linen so that everything is spotless for the newcomers. Although the camping season ends in September, the organisation is not dormant during the winter months. It is as busy as ever, working on the programme for the next season. In fact, these preparations for the following year begin before the current season ends.

For the purpose of making a reservation, most camps send out a simple booking form to be completed by the would-be holiday-maker, whether for a married couple, a family, a large party, just two or three friends, or single persons on their own. When one of these completed forms reaches the camp a number of people are involved. Firstly, scrutineers check to see that the amount of cash enclosed is correct, and that the full name and address of the applicant is given. (It is surprising how many applicants omit their address or else give the address and forget to put their name on the form.) Then the cash has to be passed to the cashiers' department for agreeing and checking, then to the allocations section for allotment of chalets. The dining-room managers also have a hand in the matter, for they have to decide at which particular table the campers will be seated for the weeks' holiday, and then finally to the typing section for a receipt and confirmation of the booking to be sent to the applicant. Any number from ten to 20,000 application forms may be received every day at the more popular camps, and are all handled within twenty-four hours of receipt.

The greatest problem is to persuade the large industrial organisations, companies and firms to stagger holidays, but in spite of intensive propaganda on the part of the Government and the providers of holidays, it seems that 80 per cent. of the population still must have their holiday in the last week in July, or the first week in August. Because of this, disappointment is caused to thousands of people whose applications have to be rejected for these weeks.

Many lasting friendships are formed at the camps; for many of the visitors who meet at a camp for the first time continue their friendship throughout the years. Even though they live at places many miles apart, they always make a point of attending the annual reunion in London and other big towns that are held by the largest of the camps.

The colour schemes at holiday camps are pleasing to the eye, a real change from the usual bricks and mortar of many boarding houses and hotels—yellows, greens, oranges, reds and blues. Not only is the colour of the buildings pleasing, but there is a profuse display of flowers throughout the season. At the holiday camps at Clacton, Skegness, Filey, Pwllheli and Ayr alone the amount in 1948 spent on gardens was £65,000. Over 25,000 roses and tens of thousands of tulips, daffodils, gladioli and many kinds of plants were bought for 1949.

The original holiday camp was founded by members of the Clarion Cycling Club. They lived in Manchester and decided to start a camp at Tabley Brook, near Knutsford, in Cheshire, in 1894. After the first successful season, in which they all lived in tents, they decided to have a permanent club-house. This was the start of holiday camps.

Five years later a Nonconformist minister named Cunningham started a holiday camp in the Isle of Man, the object of which was to protect young working men from undesirable women acquaintances on their holidays. He acquired an old house and turned the bedrooms into dormitories, and it was not until 1947 that women were allowed on the camp. Even now they have to live apart from the men. It is known as the Douglas Holiday Camp. In 1904 the Socialist Holiday Camp was started at Caister-on-Sea. It still exists and it is still going strong under Jack Dodd, the son of the founder. This was very much a pioneering effort, and no further holiday camps are recorded until 1919.

The pioneer of the big camps was Harry J. Warner in 1920, the first of his camps being at Northney, Hayling Island. Not long ago the Warner Camps were amalgamated with the Civil Service Camps, and there is now a chain of seven of them. Between World War I and World War II over 200 so-called holiday camps came into existence. Many of them were tented affairs; others consisted of a series of sheds. In order to protect the good name of holiday camps a Trade Protection Society known as the National Federation of Permanent Holiday Camps was set up. Minimum standards of comfort, efficiency and, above all, cleanliness and sanitary arrangements were laid down, and any proprietor of a camp who wished to join the Federation had—and still has—to submit to an investigation of conditions from investigating delegates appointed by the Council.

To-day, out of 200 holiday camps, fewer than fifty are registered members of the Federation. The actual question of size does not affect their qualifications, but some can take only 100 people at a time. Others can take over 5,000, although it is estimated by the Tourist Board that over 2,000,000 spend their holidays in holiday camps.

As has been seen, the original holiday camp was a Socialist idea and was encouraged by such bodies as the Workers' Travel Association. It was left to a young South African brought up in Canada to make holiday camps really luxurious. This was W. B. (Bill) Butlin, who had already made a fortune at an early age out of amusement parks.

His first venture was the luxury camp at Skegness in 1937. This was so successful that it had to be considerably enlarged in 1938 and work was started on new camps at Clacton and Filey, near Scarborough. Clacton Camp was opened in time for the summer holidays before the outbreak of war.

It was quite clear that large-scale camps run on really comfortable lines were meeting an immediate public need. Other concerns followed the Butlin example, and a number of camps were swiftly established on the same lines. One was the camp opened at Prestatyn in 1939 jointly by Thomas Cook and the L.M.S. Another was a Travco Camp accommodating 500 people, this figure being considered the biggest in which a community spirit could be maintained. Lambeth Borough Council and the City of Chesterfield also approved plans for municipal holiday camps for as many as 400 people. Pre-war charges were on an average between £3 and £3 10s. The equivalent to-day is 6 guineas to 7 guineas. Many other camps were in the process of being planned and erected in 1939. Some were actually completed, but could not be used until after the war. Filey is an example of this.

At first sight, World War II spelt ruin for holiday-camp promoters, and indeed they all suffered a heavy financial blow. The camps themselves, however, proved to be immensely useful in a variety of different ways during the war. They were requisitioned to accommodate R.A.F. personnel on neighbouring aerodromes and for accommodating prisoners of war, evacuees and Army troops. In the case of camps used for prisoners of war there is at least one where the cell used for recalcitrant P.O.W.s has been kept in its original state, in the rare emergency of needing somewhere to detain anybody who has been contravening the laws of decency. In 1947 camps were opened at Pwllheli, in Snowdonia, and in Ayr, a mile from the cottage where Robert Burns was born. In 1948 a camp was started a few miles from Dublin, and 1950 will see the opening of the Grand Bahama Holiday Camp, primarily for American holiday-makers. Most camps, though not all of them, are close to the sea.

One of the principal attractions of holiday camps is that married couples can once again spend their time in each other's company without having to bother about the children. All large reputable holiday camps have extra special arrangements for looking after children of all ages.

Another advantage of the holiday camp is that there are, to all intents and purposes, "no extras." Holiday-makers know exactly how much money it is going to cost them, apart from what they choose to spend on drinks and cigarettes.

Most well-organised camps have a security officer. Very often he is a recently-retired detective-inspector. It is his job to see that pickpockets and other minor criminals do not come as campers in order to pilfer the various chalets while their tenants are enjoying themselves elsewhere. They receive all the latest information about suspected persons likely to head for holiday camps. Usually, of course, the reporting of lost personal property proves to be incorrect. The goods in question have been merely mislaid, but the life of a camp security officer is a full one.

BANK HOLIDAY AT HAPPY HAMPSTEAD: The illuminated fair-ground which, with the removal of the ban on outdoor-lighting display, regained all its pre-war gaiety of aspect

OLD STEINE GARDENS, BRIGHTON, ONCE AGAIN GLITTER WITH FAIRY LIGHTS: A gay scene near the front after the Mayor, Councillor Friend-James, had switched on the illuminations following the lifting of the ten-year ban on out-of-door illuminations. The promenades, the piers and the valley gardens are all gaily illuminated, and many Londoners have made special evening excursions to see the resort lit up. Spotlighting of some of Brighton's Regency buildings has proved particularly effective, and it has certainly added to the spectacular appearance of the Royal Pavilion

THE LIGHTS OF "LONDON-BY-THE-SEA"

Holiday-time in Brighton, and the Return of the Illuminations

BRIGHTON PIER IS GAILY LIT UP FOR THE FIRST TIME FOR A DECADE: A view looking towards the shore, with the main street showing up as a ribbon of light as it mounts towards the station approach. Many other South Coast resorts have restored their promenade lighting

THE DOMES AND MINARETS OF THE INDO-CHINESE PAVILION: A contrast in light and shadow on the famous pavilion where George IV in his days as Regent for so long held Court. It was exactly one hundred years ago that Brighton Corporation purchased the group of buildings for £53,000

New Lamps and Old

TROLLOPE STARTED WITH A NEAR MISS

The Macdermots of Ballycloran Deserved a Kindlier Fate

By JOHN GORE

TROLLOPE'S FIRST NOVEL.—I am not sure that Anthony Trollope's first novel does not demand closer examination and more meticulous study than all the rest of the half-hundred which resulted from his industry.

For if it had succeeded—as many critics may well consider it should have succeeded—it might have directed Trollope's future course as a novelist into a different channel and possibly have established his reputation among the Great Victorians more firmly and higher than it stands to-day or stood in his lifetime.

The background of the times when that novel of Irish life was published supplies another interesting study in underlining the degree of luck or ill-luck which may make or mar a work of great merit. Trollope's first novel was *The Macdermots of Ballycloran*. The idea of the plot came to him during 1841-2 when he travelled across Ireland on Post Office business and chanced upon a ruined home of some lesser Irish gentry.

He had transferred to Ireland in 1841 at a salary of £100 a year. He began the novel in 1843, was married in 1844 (with total resources amounting to less than £400 a year). The novel was finished early in 1845 and with little expectation of success he passed it to his mother to dispose of, if she could, among the publishing fraternity known to her. None of his family read it in MS. (except, of course, his wife Rose); none expected anything of it, none was interested. But his mother did her best, and placed it with Newby on a basis of half-profits. It came out in 1847, entirely unnoticed. It was not till Trollope's reputation was established decades later that he got a penny from it. Nor did he ever get as much as £50.

[Compare the £3,200 which he received alike for *Phineas Finn* and *He Knew He Was Right*.]

Trollope was not the best judge of his own work at any time. He himself more than once asserted that he never devised a better plot than his first—the plot of *Dr. Thorne* was his brother's gift. He admitted that this first effort revealed a lack of technique and he expected nothing from it. He was right about the plot, he was right about the result. I am by no means sure that he was right in assuming that his technique improved with his next half-dozen novels.

The total failure of *The Macdermots* was due much more to the conditions current at the date of publication than to any failure by Trollope. In the mid-forties of last century, Ireland had "gone out of fashion" with English readers, very much for the same reason that black satin went out of fashion when Mrs. Manning elected to be hanged in black satin. Ireland before the great famine was in English eyes a horrible, barbarous country, prone to practices shocking to the conventions of the English drawing-room, a country of ribbon-men and thugs, of rapine and murder, of illicit stills and drunkenness and of loathsome squalor and misery—all of them matters of anxiety to the Government in London and repugnant to and unfit for London's polite drawing-rooms.

There was Lever, of course, but fun and sport and fighting were one thing, tragedy and misery and squalor another. No tragedy could come out of Ireland in those days with any hope of a hearing. Irish black satin and sackcloth were out of fashion.

The Verdicts of the Critics.—The critics of our own day have recognised this. Almost all of them admit the merits of the plot of Trollope's first effort, but all of them (in my not very competent opinion) lay too much stress on the lack of technique, of the way to tell a story, revealed in the novel.

Thus Algar Thorold, in introducing it in a Bodley Head edition of 1896, admits that it is "quite a good story, its alternate humour and pathos compensating for the lack of technique in the writing."

Michael Sadleir, a first authority on Trollope and in novel criticism, sees importance in Trollope's first novel only as a painful process of proving to an author that his road lay in another direction. He calls the book a false dawn and concentrates on its lack of imagination and on its clumsy and tiresome irrelevances and political and moral pronouncements. If he is right, there was no instant conversion. *The Three Clerks* is surely a *locus classicus* for irrelevance and apostrophe.

The judgment of the Stebbins on this novel seems to me by far the fairest and shrewdest that I have come across. I cannot say I always find myself in agreement with their conclusions, least of all in their habit of relating so very many of Trollope's most famous creations to his childhood complexes and seeing his own father and mother as the "originals" of the pictures hung on the line in his gallery.

But the Stebbins in my view go very near the truth, much nearer than any other critic, when they say of *The Macdermots*: "It is a tragic, deeply-moving story of Irish peasants and decayed gentry. It shows greater imagination than invention and with good editing could have ranked among the very finest of English novels. Anthony, who became the chronicler of manners, began as an inquirer into the sources of life. He attempted to pull up the plant, root and branch, in order to reveal the processes of growth; later he was forced to content himself with the outline of leaf and flower." That verdict is clearly favourable, if rather obscurely stated. It establishes the truth that this first novel, had it succeeded, might have profoundly affected the nature of Trollope's main output and his ultimate reputation.

Indeed, I only dissent from this verdict in a particular which, if acceptable, strengthens the verdict on the novel—the reservation on bad editing.

It is true that *The Macdermots* opens shakily for a few pages, of which perhaps five in the first two or three chapters might have been excised with advantages.

But thereafter—with one single exception when a page or two of an early draft of the rejected *Murray's Guide to Ireland* seems to have crept unwanted into the text—Trollope sticks to the action and avoids his often intolerable asides and sub-plots, with a commendable relevance and determination which is totally lacking in *The Three Clerks* and half-a-dozen more of his most popular and approved successes.

The Significance of "The Macdermots."—And indeed, *The Macdermots* deserved success and now deserves its tardy recognition. It is a very near miss. It almost hit the bull in the centre. It has almost all the essentials of a great and moving tragedy, of *Tess*, for example. It has the mingled tears and laughter and the eternal truth in character-drawing that make *The Real Charlotte* so significant a novel of Irish life.

All through the tale, from the very start, you feel the inexorability of the tragedy to fall on the chief characters. The Macdermots, father, son and daughter, are all foredoomed and the fate in store for each is clearly foreseen by the reader and approached by the author in natural, if inevitable, stages. Each is an admirable creation, with that blending of pathos and humour, of frailty and goodness, which make them true of their own time and of all time, and the priest, the Revenue officer, and the chiefs of the ribbon-men are creations no less praiseworthy and remarkable.

The elements of tragedy, from the ancient Greek dramatists down to Thomas Hardy, are not wanting. The humour is no more irrelevant than in *Macbeth* or other Shakespearian tragedy. It is a vital part of the light and shade of the painter's technique and is as shrewdly applied as in that other great Irish novel—*The Real Charlotte*—whose chief characters so curiously recall some of those in *The Macdermots*.

Finally, mark the difference—the sharp contrast—in the two chief criticisms of Trollope's first novel. "Inventive, not imaginative" is Sadleir's verdict. "It shows greater imagination than invention" say the Stebbins. I confess an inability to interpret the jargon of critics in this field. It is difficult for me to set invention and imagination in water-tight compartments. I can conceive that an imaginative author might see the supreme value of enhancing and clothing his tragedy in commonplace language and allowing it to move to its inexorable end in the workaday dress of workaday existence. The moderns, including the Russians, have not rejected that theory of art, nor have the makers of documentary films, such as *Scott of the Antarctic*.

My conclusion is that Trollope's first novel is very far from being negligible in any sense; and its greatest significance seems to me to be that (but for the mischance of Ireland being "out of fashion" with English readers) the success which *The Macdermots* deserved might have profoundly affected the future genre of Trollope's output. He might never have been forced to "content himself with the outline of leaf and flower," to be the first exponent of his day as a chronicler of manners. "Negligible" is certainly not the *mot juste* to apply to a novel which might have cost England her favourite county of Barset.

GOOD-BYE TO ENGLAND, HOME AND BEAUTY—GOODRICH COURT IS "OFF TO PHILADELPHIA IN THE MORNING": The 117-year-old mansion of Goodrich Court, which overlooks the river near Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire, has been bought by an American for £7,000, and is to be dismantled and rebuilt in the United States. The Court has been on the market since Felsted School, which was evacuated there during the war, left in 1945

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THE BICENTENARY OF THE OPENING OF THE RADCLIFFE LIBRARY, THE ARCHITECTURAL MASTERPIECE OF JAMES GIBBS, IS CELEBRATED AT OXFORD: A view of the celebrated Radcliffe Camera, one of the chief glories of Oxford, which was opened in 1749 after being built with funds left by Dr. John Radcliffe, the Bloomsbury physician. To mark the bicentenary there were special exhibitions in the New Bodleian Library and at the Radcliffe Library, illustrating the life of Radcliffe himself, the architectural history of the library and its development from uncertain beginnings into the great scientific and medical centre that it is to-day. Dr. John Radcliffe was a considerable character in his day, and he is credited with having told William III, "I would not have Your Majesty's two legs for Your Majesty's three kingdoms." He was also medical attendant to Queen Mary and Queen Anne

THE SECOND RESTORATION OF THE PORTLAND VASE: The amphora as it now appears, having been put together with new adhesives. As a result of the rebuilding of the vase grievous cracks have been eliminated

THE RADCLIFFE BICENTENARY

THE PORTLAND VASE RESTORED AGAIN

The Portland Vase, dating from the third century A.D., was brought from Italy by Sir William Hamilton in 1770. It was acquired by the Portland family in 1786, and in 1810 they deposited it in the British Museum, where thirty-five years later it was shattered by a madman. Patiently built up again by a Mr. Doubleday, its original restoration was considered a masterpiece of its kind. Now it has been re-restored, and it takes no expert to see that it possesses a great deal more of its original beauty. Last year the Museum authorities discussed the question of separating the fragments again and building them up a second time with the new types of clear glues and cements available. In January of this year Mr. G. A. Crocker, of Putney, brought in fragments of bright blue glass which he had found when examining the effects of the late Mr. G. H. Gabb. He was told that these were reputed to be chips of the Vase which had been left out in the original restoration. The fragments were identified and the work was begun in the Museum workshops in January.

SHATTERED BY A MADMAN IN 1845, RESTORED, AND NOW RE-RESTORED: Another view of the Roman cameo glass vase which has regained so much of its original splendour as a result of the work lately carried out

The World of Books—By VERNON FANE

CAPA AND STEINBECK IN DOUBLE HARNESS

The Photographer and "The Reporter" Record the Russian Scene

FEELING a little low and depressed and bored, Mr. John Steinbeck, the distinguished American author, and Mr. Robert Capa, the distinguished American photographer, sat in a bar in New York one day and wondered, respectively, what their next job of work was going to be. In a desultory way they discussed the political situation, and in so doing they decided that no matter how good the reporting on the military and diplomatic scene in Russia might be, no one told them anything about the Russian domestic life. They decided to go there together and do a straight reporting job, avoiding "politics and the larger issues."

"If we could do it, it would be good, and a good story. If we couldn't do it, we would have a story too, the story of not being able to do it." So writes Mr. Steinbeck in the first chapter of A RUSSIAN JOURNAL (Heinemann. 21s.), and in his concluding lines he writes: "We know that this journal will not be satisfactory to the ecclesiastical Left, nor the lumpen Right. The first will say that it is anti-Russian, and the second that it is pro-Russian. . . . We have no conclusions to draw, except that Russian people are like all other people in the world."

In the meantime, the team of Steinbeck and Capa have produced a book of considerable value, of great perception and of no little humour.

Volume II of THE WHITE HOUSE PAPERS OF HARRY L. HOPKINS (Eyre and Spottiswoode. 25s.) has just been published, and takes the history on from the beginning of 1942 to July 1945 and President Roosevelt's death. As with the first section of these inimitable papers and this inspired commentary, Mr. Robert Sherwood has been at his brilliant best, and I recommend both the books, not only for their paramount importance as documents of the period, but as an intimate history of the times that is quite extraordinarily readable, and more gripping than any thriller of fiction.

As a playwright, Mr. Sherwood recognises the drama of the scene; as a friend of both Roosevelt's and Hopkins' he brings a sympathetic understanding to the record of their work both official and unofficial, and as a writer he has known how to show that record in a moving light, while emphasising its importance to the world.

Lieut.-General A. E. Percival was General Officer Commanding in Malaya from 1941 to 1942, and we may suppose that few men could write with such authority as he on the tragedy of Singapore. THE WAR IN MALAYA (Eyre and Spottiswoode. 16s.) is his account of the fighting that led up to the fall, and the general situation in the island itself. Although the facts are sensational enough, General Percival has attempted to state them as unemotionally as possible, and the reader will find that it is often his deliberate omissions rather than his criticisms that are most pointed. In any case, this is a book that was needed to help fill in the picture.

The one inescapable message in Margarete Buber's book, which is a record of injustice and hideous suffering, is that totalitarianism, under whatever regime, is evil. The writer is a German woman who was a member of the Communist Party in Berlin from 1921 to 1932, and who was married to a leader of that party. In 1937, in Moscow, where they were both then living, he was arrested and she never saw him again. Later in the same year, she, too, was imprisoned and sent to a Soviet slave camp. In 1940, after the Nazi-Soviet pact, she was handed over by the Russians to the Nazi Gestapo and spent the next five years in Ravensbrück concentration camp. Of the batch of 100 prisoners sent to Germany at that time, she is the only known survivor. UNDER TWO DICTATORS (Gollancz. 21s.) is her terrible story.

RIVERMOUTH (Eyre and Spottiswoode. 9s.) is a fascinating document of the life of a small estuary known as The Big Spit or, locally and traditionally, as The Gob. Mr. Brian Vesey-Fitzgerald writes of its bird and animal life as one who knows that district well and, what is more important, as one who is a great expert on his subject. After a chapter describing the lie of the land and the fall of the water in the estuary, he devotes a chapter each to the principal inhabitants: berganders (the old English name for shelduck), magpies, otters, gulls and curlew. For all their exactness, and possibly in part because of that, Mr. Vesey-Fitzgerald's descriptions of the birds have something of the poetic. Certainly he has a painter's eye, and his appreciation of Mr. C. E. Tunnicliffe's illustrations for the book is praise indeed. I like the author's discursive style, as I think you will.

FIGHTING IT OUT WITH SABRES: Alain Sory (left) presiding over the duel between Pierre Merindol (centre), a twenty-two-year-old journalist, and the well-known Paris eccentric Jean-Auguste-Armand-Louis Fevre (right), a descendant of one of Napoleon's officers, who dresses himself in the tightly buttoned frock-coat of the early nineteenth century. The duel, with cavalry sabres, took place in a glade in the Forest of Senart, near Paris, after Merindol had described Fevre as "a dehydrated personality." Fevre, with his long, greying hair blowing in the wind, showed more spirit and skill than Merindol, whose right hand was badly wounded. The journalist then asked that the conflict should cease, but in a sudden passion the two men attacked each other again. The duel ended after Merindol's sabre had been knocked from his hand. Afterwards both men said that they had reached "a verbal formula" for reconciliation

ROUND THE NEXT CORNER (Peter Davies. 9s. 6d.) is a scrappy but vivid and good-humoured volume of autobiography from Mr. Nicholas Hastings, who before the war was Chief Cadet Captain at Dartmouth, but who took such a poor view of peacetime sailoring that he left the Navy, and decided for private enterprise in the shape of a small newspaper and sweet shop in Finchley Road. When the war came, however, Mr. Hastings was in the Navy again and saw varied service. First he was in a "mystery ship" chasing U-boats in the Atlantic, then he took part in one of the early landing raids in Norway. He was just ahead of the great invasion in North Africa—by canoe; he worked in submarines, took a short visit to America not unconnected with propaganda, and was in a swimming reconnaissance raid just before the Rhine crossing. Now, still a young man, he is farming in Kenya with his wife and their two babies. He writes of this adventurous life with optimism and vitality, and the result is a book of considerable if breathless charm.

Mlle. Simone de Beauvoir is one of the principal exponents of the philosophy of Existentialism, which is generally held to derive from the century-old edict of Kierkegaard that "Truth is subjectivity." Logically followed, this philosophy may be as anarchical as it is depressing, but it has, oddly enough, resulted in a handful of extremely gifted novels from its French followers, among whom is Sartre.

SHE CAME TO STAY (Secker and Warburg; Lindsay Drummond. 12s. 6d.) is deceiving in its apparent simplicity, for it is, nevertheless, the product of a particular doctrine. It is readable to a degree, and is the story of a clever actor-producer his mistress, who is a novelist and also works with him in the theatre, and a girl whom they bring from Rouen to Paris, and who finally destroys the harmony of their love. That harmony, mark you, had been an unusual one, since it allowed both of them a complete and explicit independence, but each had been satisfied with it until the advent of the girl. It is the older woman who finds the "solution" to the problem of their mutual unhappiness, in a violence that she, and presumably the author, finds justified. An odd book, and often a exasperating one, but never dull.

WHEN THE WIND BLOWS (Faber and Faber. 9s. 6d.) is an ingenious little detective story, and concerns the doings of a symphony orchestra in a country town. Mr. Cyril Hare has had a good time with the very specialised nature of his clues, but at the same time has written a story which even the tone-deaf may appreciate.

SNARE FOR WITCHES (Gollancz. 9s. 6d.). Miss Elinor Chamberlain has chosen an unusual, beautiful and rather sinister setting for her story of murder and persecution, in a little New England village in 1663. Here live a lovely, still young widow, her stalwart son and her two suitors, the latter representing, fairly exactly, the forces of sanity and fanaticism.

LIFE WITH FATHER

Hilda Brighten Tells the Story of Edgar Cohen

This year the House of Harrods proclaims its centenary, and this week is published Hilda Brighten's story of her father, Edgar Cohen, the shrewd business man who promoted Harrods and in Richard Burbidge discovered the genius who made Knightsbridge a focal point of the shopping world. NO BRIDGE TO YESTERDAY (Victor Gollancz. 12s. 6d.) is a first-class piece of reminiscing, and this tale of life with father, a man who worked prodigiously, gambled furiously and gave generously, is full of good anecdotes and all the flavour of high life in the spacious days of Victoria and Edward VII. Edgar Cohen knew everybody who was anybody. Caruso sang at his parties, sometimes for an hour or two on end; Lily Langtry was his friend; and when he was not busy launching companies he was on the racecourse backing winners with extraordinary regularity. Father was an astute business man, indeed, but like many of his kind he could be very gullible, and how he fell for the wild tales of "Mr. Croxford," who had a hoard of ivory on the African coast that only needed to be collected, is almost beyond belief. Mr. Croxford's African adventure never got much farther than St. John's Wood, but it cost Edgar Cohen a pretty penny. After the First World War things were not the same for "the Governor," as he was called; the glory had departed. He epitomised the age before the war in which in his fashion he made history. Hilda Brighten's story is a gay and glowing tribute, and those who remember Edgar Cohen and his circle of friends will doubtless read it at a sitting.

Erskine Caldwell, who wrote *Tobacco Road*, won further publicity in the '30's with *God's Little Acre*, a story of primitive life on a Georgia small-holding and in a neighbouring mill town. In May 1933 the New York Society for the Suppression of Vice sought to ban *God's Little Acre* on an obscenity charge. The American publishers, Viking Press, fought the charge on the ground that the book was an honest work of literature. As a result of the legal battle the case was dismissed, the magistrate declaring that the work was "very clearly not a work of pornography." To-day this is Erskine Caldwell's best-selling novel. We are told that it has recently passed the 4,000,000 mark; but it is hard to believe that this tale of a family without any standards whatsoever was written with intellectual honesty. It is barren of all but the most primitive feeling. It scales no intellectual heights. GOD'S LITTLE ACRE (Falcon Press. 8s. 6d.) is now republished, so that some thousands more, may now make acquaintance with Ty Ty, his brawling sons, and his uninhibited daughters.

J. B. Priestley has had his share of successes in the last twenty years since the rollicking good humour of *The Good Companions* swept critics and public alike off their feet. He has had his failures, too, among them *Johnson Over Jordan* and *Home is To-morrow*, which got very modest notices from the critics. Now Mr. Priestley, with his Yorkshire spirit and tenacity, is not disposed to accept a failure without due inquiry. He thinks he had a raw deal from the critics in *Home is To-morrow*, and that they did not adequately face their responsibility to the public. He claims that the play deserved more intelligent consideration. So now HOME IS TO-MORROW (William Heinemann. 7s. 6d.) appears in book form, and we are to have a second chance to appraise this play about a U.N. special agency on a crowded tropical island. It would perhaps have been better if Mr. Priestley had re-presented his drama without the bad-tempered introduction. It does not become the author of *The Good Companions*.

Coincident with the poster exhibition recently opened by the Prime Minister at the Victoria and Albert Museum is the publication of ART FOR ALL: LONDON TRANSPORT POSTERS 1908-1949 (Art and Technics. 7s. 6d.). As Lord Latham so rightly says in his introduction, this is "a permanent record of that happy association of patron, artist and printer." It is a remarkable fact, too, just how many highly individualistic artists have identified themselves with the poster technique.

In NATURE'S CALENDAR (Skeffington and Son. 10s. 6d.) William T. Palmer gives the pick of his nature sketches, covering the whole year. He writes with enthusiasm, making the great world "outdoors" infinitely near for the reader city-pent and eager to be away

MODERN GOLF (Faber and Faber. 8s. 6d.) is a new handbook by G. M. Bottome, author of *Golf for the Middle-Aged and Others*. It is written in collaboration with J. Heron, the Worplesdon professional, and the photographic technique of teaching is used with skill.

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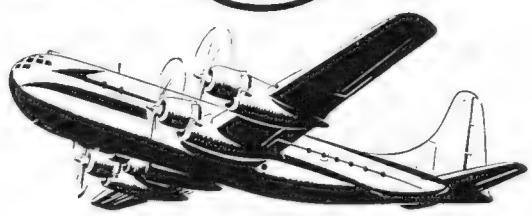

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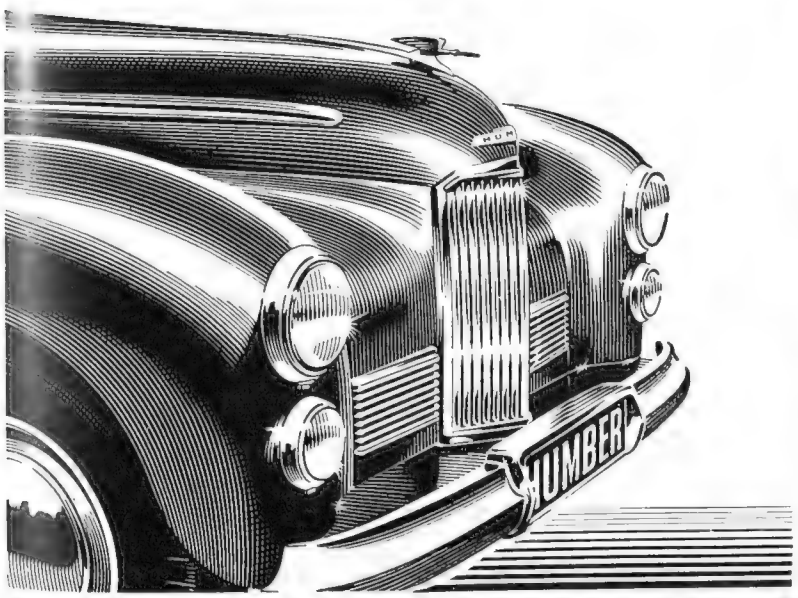

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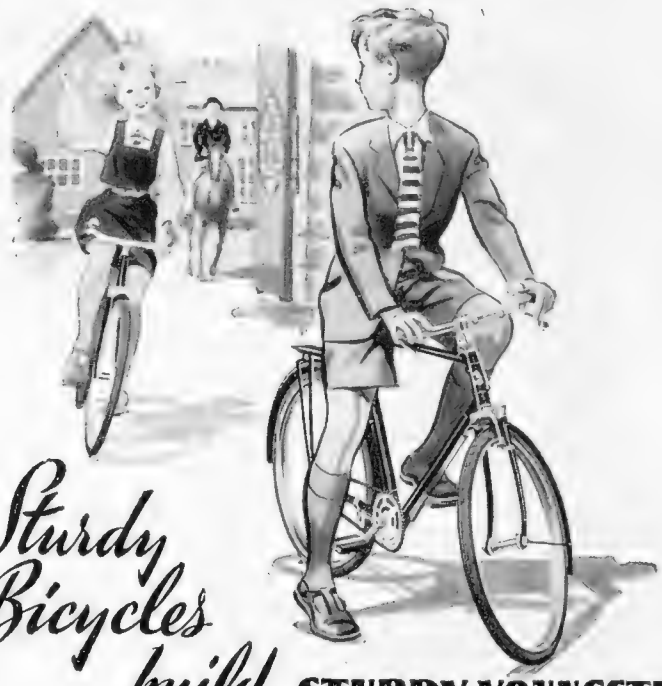

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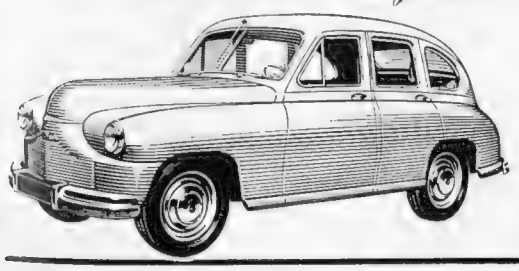

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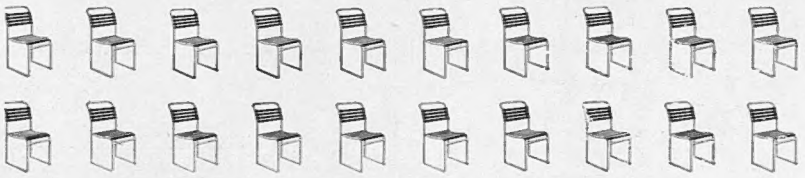

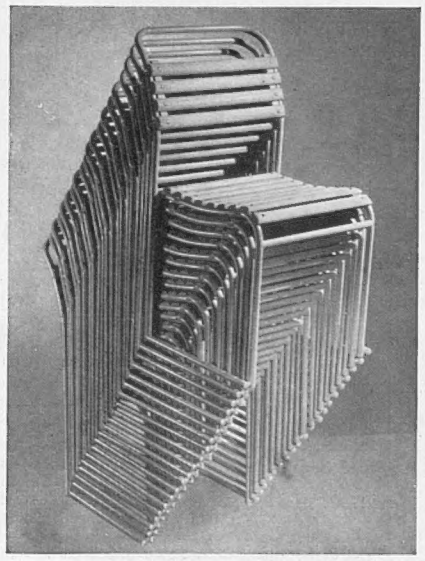

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